



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

April 12, 2007

MR SHAUN RICHMAN
APARTMENT 2D
83-55 LEFERTS BOULEVARD
KEW GARDENS, NY 11415

Subject: OBERMEIER, MICHAEL J

FOIPA No. 1034000- 000

Dear Mr. Richman:

The enclosed documents were reviewed under the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA), Title 5, United States Code, Section 552/552a. Deletions have been made to protect information which is exempt from disclosure, with the appropriate exemptions noted on the page next to the excision. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted in the file to indicate where pages were withheld entirely. The exemptions used to withhold information are marked below and explained on the enclosed Form OPCA-16a:

Section 552

- ☐ (b)(1)
- ☒ (b)(2)
- ☐ (b)(3) _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- ☐ (b)(4)
- ☐ (b)(5)
- ☒ (b)(6)

Section 552a

- ☐ (b)(7)(A)
- ☐ (b)(7)(B)
- ☒ (b)(7)(C)
- ☒ (b)(7)(D)
- ☐ (b)(7)(E)
- ☐ (b)(7)(F)
- ☐ (b)(8)
- ☐ (b)(9)
- ☐ (d)(5)
- ☐ (j)(2)
- ☐ (k)(1)
- ☐ (k)(2)
- ☐ (k)(3)
- ☐ (k)(4)
- ☐ (k)(5)
- ☐ (k)(6)
- ☐ (k)(7)

260 page(s) were reviewed and 243 page(s) are being released.

☐ Document(s) were located which originated with, or contained information concerning other Government agency(ies) [OGA]. This information has been:

- ☐ referred to the OGA for review and direct response to you.
- ☐ referred to the OGA for consultation. The FBI will correspond with you regarding this information when the consultation is finished.

☒ You have the right to appeal any denials in this release. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Director, Office of Information and Privacy, U.S. Department of Justice, 1425 New York Ave., NW, Suite 11050, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001 within sixty days from the date of this letter. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

☐ The enclosed material is from the main investigative file(s) in which the subject(s) of your request was the focus of the investigation. Our search located additional references, in files relating to other individuals, or matters, which may or may not be about your subject(s). Our experience has shown, when ident, references usually contain information similar to the information processed in the main file(s). Because of our significant backlog, we have given priority to processing only the main investigative file(s). If you want the references, you must submit a separate request for them in writing, and they will be reviewed at a later date, as time and resources permit.

☒ See additional information which follows.

Sincerely yours,



David M. Hardy
Section Chief
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Records Management Division

Enclosure(s) (2)

This is an interim release. More documents will be released to you once they are processed.

EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could be reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could be reasonably expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

FBI/DOJ

ATTENTION

The following documents appearing in FBI files have been reviewed under the provisions of The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (Title 5, United States Code, Section 552); Privacy Act of 1974 (PA) (Title 5, United States Code, Section 552a); and/or Litigation.

☐ FOIA/PA☐ Litigation☐ Executive Order Applied

Requester: _____

Subject: _____

Computer or Case Identification Number: _____

Title of Case: _____ Section _____

* File _____

Serials Reviewed: _____

Release Location: *File _____ Section _____

This file section has been scanned into the FOIPA Document Processing System (FDPS) prior to National Security Classification review. Please see the documents located in the FDPS for current classification action, if warranted. Direct inquiries about the FDPS to RIDS Service Request Unit [REDACTED]

b6
b7CFile Number: 100-HQ-96104 Section 1Serial(s) Reviewed: all

FOIPA Requester: _____

FOIPA Subject: _____

FOIPA Computer Number: 1034000

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60309/AUC

TAM/DC/FOIPA Requester: _____

FOIPA Subject: _____

FOIPA Computer Number: _____

File Number: _____ Section _____

Serial(s) Reviewed: FOIPA # 1034000

FOIPA Requester: _____

FOIPA Subject: _____

FOIPA Computer Number: _____

THIS FORM IS TO BE MAINTAINED AS THE TOP SERIAL OF THE FILE, BUT NOT SERIALIZED.

SCANNED BY DocLab (RMD)

DATE: 2/6/06

ATTENTION

LAST SERIAL: 45

DO NOT REMOVE FROM FILE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Serial Description ~ COVER SHEET

03/26/1942

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 11

Page 65 ~ b7D

Page 106 ~ b6, b7C

Page 107 ~ b6, b7C, b7D

Page 108 ~ b6, b7C, b7D

Page 130 ~ Duplicate

Page 156 ~ Duplicate

Page 162 ~ Duplicate same as page 176

Page 175 ~ Duplicate

Page 191 ~ Duplicate

Page 209 ~ Duplicate

Page 233 ~ Duplicate

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X Deleted Page(s) X
X No Duplication Fee X
X for this Page X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

March 26, 1942.

GERMAN-AMERICAN
TRADE UNION COMMITTEE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60309/AUC

25462

TAM/DCG/CAK

The Communists of New York City have set up a new organization. This time they are going to work within the CIO and the AFL to obtain the maximum mobilization of thousands of German-American workers for participation in every phase of war effort.

This committee was formed this week and Michael J. Obermeirer will act as chairman and secretary. We might mention that Obermeirer is one of the leaders of the New York Joint Executive Board of Hotel and Restaurant Workers International Alliance, AFL. Obermeirer is one of the original Communists and one of the charter founders of the Trade Union Unity League. He is a close lieutenant of William Z. Foster.

This new Communist organization has set up offices at 305 Broadway and they are going to appeal to the German radicals and German-Americans to help in every way for an all out war effort and the purchase of defense bonds.

It has been announced that a special department will be set up to combat appeasement propaganda, expose Nazi agents and saboteurs.

100-96104-1
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 2 1942
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FIVE

FOEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
APR 17 1942
RECEIVED
FBI

APR 24 1942
dv

48

EPM:JEA
100-92655-1

100-96104-1X

April 20, 1942

Special Agent in Charge
New York, New York

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60309/AUC
TAM/DCG/CAK

RE: GERMAN-AMERICAN TRADE UNION COMMITTEE
MICHAEL J. OBERMEIRER
with aliases
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

An unknown outside source has advised the Bureau that Communists of New York City have set up a new organization known as the German-American Trade Union Committee. It is stated that the Party will endeavor to work within the C.I.O. and the A.F. of L. to effect the maximum mobilization of thousands of German-American workers for participation in every phase of the war effort.

The German-American Trade Union Committee is reported to have been formed during the week of March 26, 1942, with Obermeirer as chairman and secretary. The unknown outside source has stated that Obermeirer is one of the leaders of the New York Joint Executive Board of Hotel and Restaurant Workers International Alliance, A.F. of L., and that he was one of the original Communists as well as a charter founder of the Trade Union Unity League. The German-American Trade Union Committee is reported to have set up offices at 305 Broadway, New York City.

For your information, the Bureau files reflect that Joseph Zack, in testifying before the Dies Committee on September 30, 1939, stated that Michael Obermeirer was secretary of Local Six of the International Alliance of Hotel Workers and Bartenders; and that Obermeirer has been a representative of the Communist Party, U.S.A., since the latter was formed. (Vol. 9 Dies Comm Rep P. 5458)

Mr. Tolson _____ Maurice L. Malkin, in testifying before the Dies Committee on October 13, 1939, stated, "The Food Workers Union, comprising at the present time about 60,000 members in New York, is in the A.F. of L. under the head of the Hotel Trades Council. They have an agreement with the hotels in New York. They are led by J. Ruben and Mike Obermyer. In fact, Mike Obermyer is the Communist International representative for America, and goes to Moscow." (Dies Comm Rept Vol. 9 Page 5760)

Mr. E. A. Tamm _____

Mr. Clegg _____

Mr. Glavin _____

Mr. Ladd _____

Mr. Nichols _____

Mr. Rosen _____

Mr. Tracy _____

Mr. Carson _____

Mr. Coffey _____

Mr. Hendon _____

Mr. Holloman _____

Mr. McGuire _____

Mr. Quinn Tamm _____

Mr. Nease _____

Miss Gandy _____

Mike Obermeirer was reported to have been in attendance at a meeting of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party on July 12, 1940, in New York City. Obermeirer was then identified as secretary of the Joint Board of Hotel, Restaurant, and Bartenders Unions (A.F. of L.) and formerly American Communist Party representative in Moscow at the Red International of Labor Unions.

b2
b7D

INVESTIGATION

The Bureau desires that an immediate investigation be undertaken to develop complete information concerning the German-American Trade Union Committee. It is also desired that appropriate consideration be given to the investigation of Michael J. Obermeier, who does not appear to have been considered for custodial detention.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

MICHAEL J. OBERMEIRER

GERMAN-AMERICAN

TRADE UNION COMMITTEE

25461

New York, N. Y.,

March 26, 1942.

1
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60309/AUC
TAM/DCG/CAK

The Communists of New York City have set up a new organization. This time they are going to work within the CIO and the AFL to obtain the maximum mobilization of thousands of German-American workers for participation in every phase of war effort.

This committee was formed this week and Michael J. Obermeirer will act as chairman and secretary. We might mention that Obermeirer is one of the leaders of the New York Joint Executive Board of Hotel and Restaurant Workers International Alliance A.F. of L. Obermeirer is one of the original Communists and one of the charter founder of the Trade Union Unity League. He is a close lieutenant of William Z. Foster.

This new Communist organization has set up offices at 305 Broadway and they are going to appeal to the German radicals and German-Americans to help in every way for an all out war effort and the purchase of defense bonds.

It has been announced that a special department will be set up to combat appeasement propaganda, expose Nazi agents and saboteurs.

let HC NY
4-20-42
WJW

RECORDED

INDEXED

100-96104-1X
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
6 APR 6 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York, New York

KMB:IP
NY file 100-25590

June 23, 1942

25457

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNION COMMITTEE;
MICHAEL J. OBERMEIRER, with aliases;
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated June 9, 1942,
requesting information as to the status of instant case.

This case has been assigned to Special Agent [redacted]
for investigation. In accordance with Bureau instructions, this
agent has been assigned exclusively to investigation of the case
entitled COMMUNIST PARTY U.S.A., VOORHIS ACT, and has been unable to
devote any of his time to the above-captioned case. When Agent
[redacted] present assignment is completed, an investigation of instant
case will be conducted and a report submitted to the Bureau.

b6
b7C

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth

P. E. FOXWORTH
Assistant Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60309/AUC
TAM/DCG/CAK

DEFERRED RECORDING

RECORDED
INDEXED 5/11/59 #16

100-96104-2
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
5 JUN 25 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FIVE

301 170
33 JUL 18 1942

EPM:AKM

August 6, 1942

100-96104

25456

Special Agent in Charge
New York, New York

RE: GERMAN-AMERICAN TRADE UNION COMMITTEE;
MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER, with aliases;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Please refer to prior Bureau communications in the
above-entitled matter and submit a report without further delay.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-21-2006 BY 60309/AUC
GLOVE/CAK

Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Carson _____
Coffey _____
Hendon _____
Kramer _____
McGuire _____
Quinn Tamm _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
☆ AUG 6 - 1942
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

100-96104-13
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 7 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SPH:AKR
100-96104

Date: November 10, 1942

To: SAC, New York

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERMAN-AMERICAN TRADE UNION
COMMITTEE; MICHAEL J. OBERMEIRER,
with aliases;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

65455

The Bureau's files reflect that you were instructed
to institute appropriate investigation in this case on
11 20, 1942.

In view of the extreme delinquency of this matter
must arrange to submit a report without further delay.

100-96104 4

NOV 12 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60309/AUC
TAM/DCG/CAK

100-96104

LW'DKM

March 2, 1943

PERSONAL ATTENTION

SAC - New York

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60309/AUC
TAM/DCG/CAK

Re: GERMAN-AMERICAN TRADE UNION
COMMITTEE
MICHAEL J. OBERMEYER, WAS.
INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the Bureau's Letters dated
April 20, 1942, August 6, 1942 and November 10, 1942, re-
questing investigation in this matter.

It is noted that on June 23, 1942, you advised
that the case had been assigned to an Agent then engaged
exclusively on another investigation.

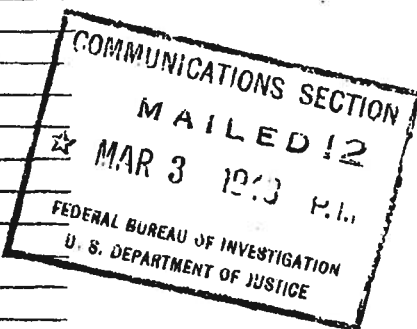
You are instructed to reassign the instant
investigation and to furnish a report in this matter
without further delay.

Very truly yours,

RECORDED

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E.A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Piper _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____



100-96104-5

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

MAR 4 1943
RECEIVED READING ROOM
F. B. I.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

51 MAR 8 1943

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION 25450

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK, NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. **100-25590**

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK CITY	DATE WHEN MADE JUN 30 1943	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8/14/42; 8/20; 10/13/42; 6/7; 9/43	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>
TITLE VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS; GERMAN AMERICAN COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONISTS; MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS

Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists formed as an affiliate of the German American Emergency Conference on March 1, 1942. Published aims of organization are to rehouse German American workers to greater efforts on production front, support Civilian Defense activities, sale of war bonds and stamps, combat defeatist and appeasement propaganda, expose Nazi agents, spies and saboteurs, and combat unjust discrimination against loyal German American workers. Known attendance at meetings in 1942 did not exceed 21 persons. Greater New York Labor Conference of German Americans held 1/30/43, attendance 135, where resolution was passed to form permanent organization named German American Council of Trade Unionists. M. J. OBERMEIER president of Hotel and Club Employees Union Local 6, A.F. of L. is president of German American Council of Trade Unionists. Secretary is GUSTAVE FABER, who is also secretary and treasurer of the Transport Workers Union of Greater New York, CIO. Information set forth indicated OBERMEIER a German alien, has been affiliated with the Communist Party since inception and that instant organization is a Communist Front. OBERMEIER is a member of OWI-sponsored German American Victory Council. It is alleged that on March 28, 1942 he spoke over the short-wave radio to Germany in US government-sponsored broadcast.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 2/8/89 BY 283013
 0-Continued American Trade Unionists

REFERENCE

Bureau file #100-96104
Letter to New York Field Division from the Bureau dated 4/20/42 and captioned "GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNION COMMITTEE MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER, with aliases."

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		100-96104 + 6 2 JUL 1 1943	RECORDED & INDEXED 5102
5 - Bureau (enc.) 1 - Col. S. V. Constant, G-2 1 - Capt. R. G. MacFall, ONI 2 - New York AUG 29 1943		EX-36	

DETAILS: ~~Confidential~~ National Defense informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, attended a rally sponsored by the German American Emergency Conference on March 1, 1942 at Webster Hall, 119 East 11th Street, New York City. Informant reports that this rally followed an all-day conference in the same hall. The chairman of the rally was a refugee whose name was not mentioned. Later on Doctor KURT ROSENFELD presided.

b2
b7D

The chairman of the first half of the conference registered eighty delegates from sixty organizations with a combined membership of 50,000 German Americans. These delegates passed a resolution to organize a permanent Trade Union Committee to deal with different problems concerning German American Trade unionists.

The speakers of the evening were FRANZ BOAS, ARTHUR GARFIELD HAYES, JULIUS DEUTSCH, LUE LLANG, KARIN MICHAELIS, DR. FELIX BOENHEIM, PIERRE COT, HORST BAERENSPRUNG, GENERAL YAKHONTOFF, REVEREND VER LYNN SPRAGUE and OBERMEIER of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union. The last two spoke instead of ALVAREZ DEL VAYO and JOHANNES STEEL, who did not appear. The tone of the speeches was intensely anti-Axis and pro-American. This was coupled with the renaissance of German culture and freedom after the defeat of HITLER. SPRAGUE, in addition to a violent war speech, made a collection speech which netted \$360.

BAERENSPRUNG was introduced by SPRAGUE, as former secretary-general of the Reichsbanner who spent the last few years in China in a military capacity.

Doctor BOENHEIM was introduced by ROSENFELD as his personal friend and leading organizer of the Amsterdam Congress in 1932.

OBERMEIER is a member of the Communist Party, reports informant [] In 1930, the informant knew him to be a leading official in the Food Workers industry union, at which time he sent members of the Young Communist League to wreck non-Union cafeterias that refused to sign contracts. Informant [] further states "There is no doubt the Party organized this affair in an attempt to control as many German refugees as possible. This will pay dividends if HITLER falls, and important refugees under Party influence trek back to take a hand in the government to follow." The entire attendance appeared to be refugees who were active Communists in Germany. They warmly applauded when YAKHONTOFF and SPRAGUE mentioned the Red Army and STALIN."

b2
b7D

On March 24, 1942, a press release was issued by instant organization, reading as follows:-

NY 100-25590

"German-American Trade Unionists from A. F. of L. and C.I.O. organizations in New York have set up a Victory Committee of German-American Trade Unionists," to secure the maximum mobilization of the tens of thousands of German-American workers for participation in every phase of the war effort. It was announced today by M. J. Obermeier, chairman of the Committee, and Secretary-Treasurer of the N.Y. Local Joint Executive Board of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Alliance, A.F. of L. The announcement was made through the temporary offices of the Committee at 305 Broadway, Rm. 409.

"We German-American trade unionists feel that we must make a special contribution to America's victory over Hitler and the Axis," the Committee states in an official announcement of its formation. "We want to show our fellow-Americans and the world how great is the gulf between the barbarism of the Nazi usurpers and the true spirit of our German heritage. We want to ensure the victory of our beloved homeland, America, in this war for freedom. And we want to help our kin in Germany free themselves from the Nazi tyrants and regain a life of peace, democracy and happiness."

The aims of the Victory Committee are to "rouse the German-American workers to greater efforts on the production front"; support Civilian Defense activities, sale of Defense Bonds and Stamps and war relief campaigns; combat defeatist and appeasement propaganda; and expose Nazi agents, spies and saboteurs; combat unjust discrimination against loyal German-American workers; and "call across the Atlantic to the millions of German workers of the once great free trade union movement of Germany, encouraging them to rise against the Nazi oppressors and create a free and happy Germany."

The committee's statement ends with an appeal to German-American workers: "Let us win our rightful place in the first ranks of America's warriors of freedom! Let us be the best 'soldiers of production! Let us be the best Civilian Defenders! Let us be alert for Nazi agents and propagandists! Let us devote the genius of our German heritage to the fight for America's freedom and Germany's liberation! "

Members of the Victory Committee, besides Mr. Obermeier, are: Vice-Chairman, Gustav Faber, Secretary Treasurer, Transport Workers Union of Greater New York, C.I.O.; Secretary, Rudolph Kohler, Bakery and Confectionery Workers Local 1, Business Agent, A.F. of L.; Hans Firmsbach, Chefs, Cooks and Pastry Cooks Local 399, A.F.L.; Hugo Dewald, Business Agent, Meat Cutters Union Local 623, A.F.L.; Fred Rubin, Business Agent, Butchers Union Local 174, A.F.L.; Carl Schutt, Business Agent, Hotel and Club Employees Union, Local 6, A.F.L.; Hans Schuttig,

NY 100-25590

"Vice Chairman, United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, Local 1227, C.I.O.; Frank Redl, president, Brotherhood of Painters and Decorators, Local 840, A.F.L.; Christof Wesch, United Furniture Workers, Local 76-B, C.I.O."

On March 26, 1942 on page 4 of the Daily Worker, prominence was given to the press release set out above under the Heading: "U.S. GERMAN UNIONISTS MAP JOINT WAR AIMS." The Daily Worker further indicated that temporary offices were being maintained in Room 409 at 305 Broadway.

The reporting agent ascertained that Room 409 at 305 Broadway is jointly occupied by the German American Emergency Conference and the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists.

On March 27, 1942 a press release was issued indicating that the Victory Committee of the German American Trade Unionists would hold an open meeting on Tuesday, April 7th at 8:30 P.M., to which all German American trade union members and officers were invited. The meeting was held at 709-15 Eighth Avenue, 3rd floor, New York City.

On June 1, 1942, a letter addressed to "Dear Brother" was sent out on the letterhead of the instant organization over the signature of M. J. OBERMEIER, stating that enclosed with the letter was a copy of the minutes of the last meeting held on May 28. OBERMEIER calls attention to the fact that out of a committee of 20 members, only nine were present. OBERMEIER further stated to the addressee that it is absolutely essential that the Victory Committee function in this critical period, and calls attention to the meeting to be held on June 5, 1942 at 11 West 42nd Street in Room 1650,; also enclosed with the letter were subscription lists which the addressee is requested to have filled out in his union. OBERMEIER states that one of the things to be discussed at the June 5th meeting is the Bomber Campaign.

The minutes of the meeting held on May 28th read as follows:-

"MINUTES MEETING MAY 28th at 11 West 42d Street, Room 1650, N.Y.C.

PRESENT:

Bros:

Obermeier, Chariman - Faber, ViceChariman - Kohler,
Secretary - Herman F. Passe, Local #219 - Louis
Christman, Schultz, Carl Schutt, Local #6 - Fred
Snopek, Fur Dressers and Dyers - Gartner, Local #174.

"RESOLUTIONS:

1. A wreath to be laid at the Carl Schurz Memorial Statue on Decoration Day, May 30th. Wreath donated by Bro. Faber. Snopek to head the delegation. Statement to press.
2. A Float to be arranged for June 13th parade in New York City.
 - a. Committee in charge of arrangements: Bros. Obermeier, Kohler and Faber
 - b. Money to be raised through subscription lists in the Unions.
 - c. Design of float to be ready Tuesday, June 2nd.
 - d. Report on float to be given to Victory Committee on Friday, June 5th.
 - e. Pledges were made by brothers present on money to be raised for float.
3. Conference of German-American Trade Unionists to be called by the committee in about 5 weeks.
 - a. Report on Conference to be made at meeting June 5th.
4. Butchers Union #174 donated \$10.00 to work of Committee."

A mimeographed press release was issued in connection with the Memorial Day ceremonies at the grave of Carl Schurz. This release indicates that the Victory Committee of the German American Trade Unionists representing both A.F. of L. and C.I.O. organizations in the city has pledged its renewed allegiance to the President of the United States to follow in the footsteps of Carl Schurz and fight in the ranks of America's warriors for freedom. The press release calls upon German Americans and unions to carry on all production without any interruption, and engage in Civilian Defense work and buy War Bonds by the pay-roll savings plan. All German Americans at the Memorial Day Services were urged to pledge extra effort and the extra sacrifice which will speed the doom of the Axis empires and our early victory. This release indicated that MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER, Chairman; GUSTAV FABER, Vice-Chairman; and RUDOLPH KOHLER were officers of the Victory Committee.

On April 9, 1942, a press release was issued indicating that the instant organization had decided to launch a drive to raise funds for a

bombing plane which was to be presented to the United States government to symbolize the desire of German Americans to see the allied nations take the offensive and crush HITLER and the Axis. "As males of German birth and descent, we feel that we must make a special contribution to the victory of the democratic cause", Messrs. [redacted] and Faber state in announcing the plan. "We feel that it is our responsibility to show our fellow Americans that there is nothing in common between the true German heritage of culture, progress and freedom and the barbarous reaction of the Nazi usurpers."

It is also stated that at the April meeting it was voted to send greetings to the British, Soviet and Chinese trade unions.

Confidential Informant [redacted] attended the meeting of the German American Victory Committee on September 22, 1942 at 100 Columbus Avenue, New York City. At this meeting, 21 members were present, representing five different unions. Also present were Doctor KURT ROSENFELD, chairman of the German American Emergency Conference, and an executive board was formed consisting of one representative of each union. MICHAEL OBERMEIER was elected chairman, and RUDOLPH KOHLER was elected secretary. It was planned that the Executive Board is to be enlarged as members come in. The meeting-day for the committee was set for Tuesdays.

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Confidential Informant [redacted] states that he was approached by an alleged member of the Communist Party, name unknown, who asked him to vote for the meeting day of the Committee on days other than Tuesdays, inasmuch as they are very busy on Tuesday nights. [redacted] stated that he gathered that the reason for such a request was due to the fact that Communist Party meetings were also held on Tuesday nights. At this meeting, RUDOLPH KOHLER sold copies of a newspaper entitled "The German American."

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In the masthead of this paper he is carried as the editor of the publication. It is sponsored by the German American Emergency Conference. A review of the New York Field Division files indicates that the first issue of the GERMAN AMERICAN appeared in May, 1942. Most of the content of the paper is printed in the German language, although occasional articles do appear in English.

Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, has on occasion reviewed this publication, and points out that most of the contributors to this paper are Communist fellow travelers.

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On October 13, 1942, confidential informant [redacted] attended a meeting of instant organization held at 8:30 PM at 11 West 42nd Street, New York City. MICHAEL OBERMEIER presided as chairman and RUDOLPH KOHLER as secretary. ERNEST KRUGER of the German American Emergency Conference and FRED SNOPEK, representing the Joint Board of Fur Driers and Dyers, C.I.O., BORIS LOTTOFFSKI,

a Russian speaking fairly good German, a representative of Local #623 of the Food Workers Union were the only persons attending the meeting. Informant [] reports that OBERMEIER made an attempt to back out as chairman of the German American Victory Committee. He stated that he could not handle both the presidency of Local #6 and act as chairman of this organization. None of the other officers appeared to want the responsibility either, and no decision was made as to what was to be done.

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A committee of three, OBERMEIER, FABER and KOHLER was formed to interview United States Attorney General FRANCIS BIDDLE in reference to a forthcoming rally of German American societies. A letter was read by Doctor KURT ROSENFELD which was to be sent to the Attorney General. Informant advises that ERNEST KRUGER and KARL OBERMANN are the leading persons connected with the publication "THE GERMAN AMERICAN."

On January 30, 1943, a conference was held entitled "The New York Labor Conference of German Americans." The conference was called to order by temporary chairman, M. J. OBERMEIER, president of the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists, who sponsored the conference. In his speech of greeting to the delegates, OBERMEIER stated that there are in New York at least five different German-American groups, all pledged as German-Americans to a special effort to back the war effort. He stated that the German American Trade Unionists participated in the Emergency Conference of loyal German Americans organized by Dr. BOENHEIM and Doctor KURT ROSENFELD, and that the Emergency Conference co-operated in every way in an effort to bring German Americans together. He stated that he felt that all of these organizations should go together, but that it took time and that no effort should be spared to continue the Conference under the leadership of Doctor SCHUSTER, Mr. RIDDER and Mr. SATTLER. OBERMEIER called upon the delegates present at this conference to strive to achieve unity amongst the German American people.

MAY KLOEPPEL, International representative of the Bakery and Confectionery Workers Union, A.F. of L., made an address. Greetings were received from MICHAEL J. QUILL, president of the Transport Workers of America; MICHAEL CELLER of the 10th A. D. of New York; a telegram from 100,000 C.I.O. Workers in Wisconsin from WALTER J. BURKE, secretary; LISA SERGRO, news commentator from Station WQXR; a letter from the Japanese American Committee for Democracy; from the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America; from R. J. THOMAS, president of the U.A.W., C.I.O. and a letter from the Italian American weekly newspaper "L'Unita del Popolo". Doctor KURT ROSENFELD made a stirring and inspiring plea to the Victory Committee to continue working, and congratulated them for sponsoring such a necessary conference.

135 persons attended the conference, consisting of 109 delegates.

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of which 70 were regular, and 39 were fraternal. There were 70 trade unions represented, 33 A.F. of L. and 37 C.I.O. locals.

SOL MILLS, secretary of the Greater New York Industrial Council, C.I.O., was the principal speaker at the Conference. Persons participating in discussions were DAN RICKERT, Local 670, Building Service, C.I.O.; LOTTIE KRUEGER, Local 40; FRANK WEDL, Painters Union, Local 848; LEO BEISSEL, Butchers Union, Local 174; JOE MEDITZ, Workmen's Benefit Fund, Branch 59; FRITZ RUST of Detroit; HANS MARGWITZ, former German miner, gave a short resume of the history of the German trade unions. GUSTAV FABER, chairman of the resolutions committee, offered a resolution that a permanent council be formed called the German American Council of Trade Unionists, and the council should consist of one delegate each, representing a local branch or shop, and that an executive committee be elected to carry on the work of the permanent council, the name of which is to be the German American Council of Trade Unionists. It was further resolved that Victory Committees of German American trade unionists be established in all locals, branches and shops, wherever German Americans are, that all members of this committee be given a contribution card of 25¢ monthly, to be collected by holders of each card. The resolutions were accepted, with the officers of the permanent council elected as follows:-

MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER, President; GUSTAV FABER, Secretary-Treasurer; LEO BEISSEL, JULIUS BERGER, Furriers Joint Council, C.I.O., HUGO DE WALD, business agent, Meat Cutters Union, Local #623, A.F. of L., BLANCA HENKE, Local 1227, U.E.R.M.W.A., C.I.O.; MAX KLOEPPEL, International representative, Bakery and Confectioners Union, A.F. of L.; RUDOLPH KOHLER, Bakery and Confectioners Union, Local #1, A.F. of L.; DAN RICKERT, Local #670, Building Service, C.I.O.; EDWARD SCHWUCHOW, Carpenters and Joiners Local #2090, C.I.O.; FRED SNOPEK, Joint Board of Fur Driers and Dyers, CIO; WILLIAM VON RUMPF, Local #1227, U.E.R.M.W.A., C.I.O.; FRANK WEDL, Painters Union, Local A.F. of L.

A copy of the minutes of this meeting are being forwarded to the Bureau.

RUDOLPH KATZ, Assistant Editor of the *Neue Volkszeitung*, [redacted] advised that sometime ago he was approached by ALLAN CRANSTON and [redacted] of the Office of War Information and asked to participate in the German American Victory Council which was being formed by the OWI. KATZ and GERHARDT SEGUR, editor of the *Neue Volkszeitung*, were to represent the German Social Democrats, according to OWI. KATZ inquired of CRANSTON and [redacted] who the other members of the committee were to be, and he was given a list of about 23 names. KATZ stated that he recognized a Communist on this committee, in addition to some Germans who up to December 7, 1941 had been somewhat pro-Nazi minded, and whom he considered to be well over on the right. In view of the fact that both of

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these groups would be on the committee, he advised GRANSTON and [] that he did not desire to participate because he did not understand how such a committee could function without bitter arguments and trouble. After holding out from joining this organization for a while, KATZ finally did join, and thereafter learned that there were at least seven Communists or fellow travelers on the committee, who actually dominated it.

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These individuals would show up for every meeting while members of other German American groups did not show up regularly. Subsequently, the meetings were always dominated by the Communists. Furthermore, he stated that the Communists did not represent large groups of German Americans as did the other persons, and upon bringing this to the attention of Office of War Information officials, he was told that inasmuch as invitations had already been presented to these organizations to be represented on the committee, they would not be asked to withdraw from the activities of such committee.

RUDOLPH KATZ attributed the fact that the Communists were represented to [] of the office of War Information. RUDOLPH KATZ named the following individuals as being Communists or fellow travelers, and representing German American groups on the German American Victory Council:-

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MICHAEL OBERMEIER
KURT ROSENFELD
FELIX BORNHEIM
[]

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Confidential Informant [] provided the following clipping which appeared in an unknown issue of the HOTEL AND CLUB VOICE, the official publication of the Hotel and Club Employees Union, A.F. of L.:-

SOBERMEIER HEARD ABROAD.

Mike Obermeier, president of Local 6, spoke over the short wave radio to Germany in a U. S. Government-sponsored broadcast on March 28.

Speaking as chairman of the recently organized Victory Committee of German-American Trade Unionists, Obermeier related how German Americans were actively engaged in this country in helping their brethren in Germany to throw off the yoke of Hitler and Nazism.

He told of the 40,000 organized hotel, club and restaurant workers in New York City and related the gains they have made and are making in bettering their working conditions.

"He called on the Germans to resist Hitler and cooperate with the United Nations. Only when Hitler is smashed, he declared, will German workers be free."

In the American Labor Who's Who, published in 1925, it is stated that MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER was an executive member of the International Workers in the Amalgamated Food Industry since 1918. He was a member of the Executive Board of the Trade Union Educational League since 1923. He was a member of the New York Union Labor Council since 1922. OBERMEIER was born on November 13, 1892 in Munich, Germany. He attended public school in Bavaria for four years, and a clerical seminary for one year. He has worked in hotels and restaurants in Switzerland, Italy, France, England, South America and the United States. He is author of a publication entitled "The History of Hotel Workers Union in New York." He was a member of the Workers Party and resided at 71 West 108th Street, New York City. It is noted that the Trade Union Educational League was founded by WILLIAM C. FOSTER, who is presently chairman of the Communist Party, U.S.A.

The Dies Committee reports reveal that JOSEPH LACK, formerly a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, testified that MIKE OBERMEIER has been a member of the Communist Party since it was born. MAURICE MALKIN, a former member of the Communist Party, testified that MIKE OBERMEIER is the International Representative (of the Communist Party) from America, and goes to Moscow. ROBERT PITCOFF, a former member of the Communist Party, testified that, to his knowledge, MICHAEL OBERMEIER was a member of the Communist Party.

On August 14, 1942, Mr. OTTO SCHATZ, Editor of the Geneva Association publication, Hotel Industry, stated to the reporting agent that he was well acquainted with OBERMEIER's activities for the past 25 years, or more. He stated that OBERMEIER came originally from Munich, Germany, and entered this country prior to the first World War, at which time he was active politically as either a Socialist or a member of the International Workers of the World.

In 1918, OBERMEIER was organizer and leader of the Amalgamated Hotel Workers Union. At the time they had a city-wide strike. He indicated that the Amalgamated Union had been formed in opposition to the A. F. of L. union organized in the hotel industry. OBERMEIER was active in the Amalgamated Union in organizing bar and speakeasy workers in 1932, and incorporating them into Local 16 of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Alliance and Bartenders International League of America, A.F. of L.

In 1938, OBERMEIER was the leading spirit in the formation of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union, which was affiliated with the Hotel and

Restaurant Employees International Alliance and Bartenders International League of America.

Mr. SCHATZ stated that OBERMEIER has taken two trips to Russia. On the first occasion, he was a steward on the S.S. LEVIATHAN. OBERMEIER then returned to this country and took his wife and child back to Russia, where they lived for several years. While there, informant stated that he worked with the IN-TOURIST COMPANY in connection with hotel operation methods.

SCHATZ states that OBERMEIER was supposed to have gone to India and South Africa as a Communist Party representative. In India, OBERMEIER is alleged to have attended or at least to have had some connection with the All-India Congress. In South Africa, OBERMEIER was an organizer in Johannesburg, and subsequently was either ejected from or asked to leave that city. It was not clear to the informant whether subject OBERMEIER was a union organizer or an organizer for the Communist party while he was in Johannesburg.

In the Daily Worker of October 15, 1929, there appeared a statement to the effect that complete endorsements of the candidates and program of the Communist Party in the New York mayoralty election was voted at a hotel and cafeteria workers branch of the Amalgamated Workers Union at 133 West 51st Street, New York City. This article stated that the endorsement of the Communist candidates was unanimous. The meeting also endorsed a drive to unionize New York cafeterias. MICHAEL OBERMEIER, organizer of the union, commenting on the endorsement of the Communist program and candidates, said: "We cafeteria workers know who our enemies are, and we also know who our friends are."

On May 1, 1929, an article appeared in the New York Times, stating that a motion against SAM KRAMBERG and MIKE OBERMEIER of the strikers committee of the Hotel, Restaurant and Cafeteria Workers branch of the Amalgamated Food Workers was presented by NATHANIEL PHILLIPS, counsel for the WILLOW CORPORATION, before Supreme Court Justice AARON J. LEVI. PHILLIPS offered to produce an affidavit that OBERMEIER had, at strike meetings, made fiery speeches, attacking the American government, praising the Soviet government and calling on strikers to disregard Justice LEVI's injunction.

In the June 16, 1929 issue of the New York Times, an article set forth the fact that MICHAEL OBERMEIER and SAM KRAMBERG were cited for contempt of court. The article further stated that picketing of the Willow Cafeterias had been conducted by members of the Needleworkers Industrial Union, the International Labor Defense, and the United Council of Working Women, all organizations affiliated with the Communist movement.

Another article dated May 18, 1929 indicated that SAM KRAMBERG and MICHAEL OBERMEIER were found guilty of contempt of court and advised disobedience to an injunction issued by the Supreme Court.

An article dated June 2, 1929 stated that KRAMBERG and OBERMEIER had indicated that they would rather go to jail than pay the fine.

It is to be noted that SAM KRAMBERG is presently a member of the State Department of the Communist Party. On February 4, 1941, an article appeared in the New York Times, indicating that the Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Alliance, A.F. of L., parent body of 14 culinary unions in this city, had suspended all former functions of the Joint Executive Board, and ordered investigation of conflicts between Communist and anti-Communist factions represented on the Board.

HUGO KENST, Secretary-treasurer of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Alliance, informed the Joint Executive Board that the International would investigate the situation at the end of the month. During the suspension of work, the Joint Executive Board will be conducted by WILLIAM NESEVICH, representing the Right Wing Faction, and MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER, representing the alleged Communist or Left Wing. The suspension order is the result of the intensification of the factional fight following the capture of the Board by the Communist Left Wing faction, and the secession from the Board of six of the fourteen unions. These unions charged that the Board had come under Communist control.

Records of the New York Field Division reveal that MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER was vice-chairman in 1942 of the Trade Union Committee to elect "Win The War" candidates. On April 17, 1943 he was a guest of honor at the United Nations in America dinner being given by the American Committee for the Protection of the Foreign-Born.

A review of the Daily Worker reveals that OBERMEIER was a speaker at the forum on the Japanese-American Victory Program held at the Hotel Commodore on February 13. In the Daily Worker dated April 9, 1943, it is reflected that OBERMEIER was a sponsor at a rally held at Madison Square Garden, condemning discrimination against Negroes. Other sponsors were JOSEPH CURRAN, National Maritime Union; FERDINAND SMITH, National Maritime Union; and SAUL WILLS, Greater New York Industrial Union Council.

Records of the New York Field Division further reflect that on February 25, 1942, MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER filed an application of registration for a certificate of identification as an enemy alien. He indicated that he resided at 69-15 178th Street, Flushing, Long Island, and that he was president of Local 6, Hotel and Club Workers Union. He stated that he was born on November 13, 1892 in Munich and that he still has a mother, brother and sister residing in Munich. He indicated that he had come to the United States 30 years previous, and that he was opposed to the National Socialist regime in Germany.

[redacted] residing at [redacted]

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[] advised that OBERMEIER resided with his wife at 69-15 178th Street, and had resided there since about June, 1940. [] indicated that OBERMEIER had a daughter, [] who had recently graduated from Hunter College and was presently attending Ames College, Ames, Iowa. OBERMEIER also has a son, who is presently working in a national defense plant at Watervliet, New York. This son has not resided with OBERMEIER since the latter moved to his present address.

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At the time that OBERMEIER occupied the premises, an individual named [] lived with them. The individual named [] is described by [] as follows:-

Age
Height
Build
Hair
Glasses
Moustache

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It is believed that this individual residing with OBERMEIER is, from foregoing description, [] who is reported to be the editor of the Hotel and Club Voice, the official publication of the Hotel and Club Employees Union, Local #6, A.F. of L.

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A review of this publication in connection with a separate investigation of the Communist infiltration of the Hotel and Club Employees Alliance and the Bartenders Alliance of the International League of America, reflects that the Hotel and Club Voice consistently follows the current Communist Party line.

[] indicated that approximately one year ago, [] who previously had been working on a New York newspaper, left the country, presumably to go back to England. Mrs. OBERMEIER has a reputation in the neighborhood of being of French nationality. In a conversation in September 1942, Mrs. OBERMEIER had indicated that she and her daughter had traveled first-class in Europe and that it was much cooler in Moscow than it was in New York City. [] was not acquainted with the business or other activities of MICHAEL OBERMEIER.

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ENCLOSURE - BUREAU

(1) Copy of the minutes of the Greater New York Labor Conference of German Americans - January 30, 1943

P E N D I N G

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

At New York City

Will interview RUDOLPH KATZ, assistant editor of the Neue Volkszeitung, 227 East 48th Street, New York City to determine the current activities of the German American Victory Council in relation to MIKE OBERMEIER and the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists.

Will ascertain from Immigration and Naturalization Service the number of trips and duration of said trips to Europe on part of MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER.

Will report further activities of instant organization.

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CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT

The identity of the confidential informant appearing in the
report of Special Agent [redacted] dated JUN 30 1943 at
New York City is as follows:-

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This informant requested that his
name be kept in confidence by
this office.

Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists

M. J. OBERMEIER
President

GUSTAV FABER
Secretary



25453

305 BROADWAY
New York City
Tel: WO 2-7690

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60307 FOR/ASPEEDY VICTORY—SMASH HITLERISM
TAM/DCG/CAK STRENGTHEN AND BUILD YOUR UNION

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Minutes of the Greater New York Labor Conference of German Americans

Held at the Fraternal Club House, New York, on Saturday, January, 30, 1943

The conference was called to order by temporary Chairman M. J. Obermeier, President of the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists, who sponsored the conference. He greeted the conferees and guests:

"... As American trade unionists, fully agreeing with the policy of our country, we have tried to build up an organization that will expedite the war effort in every possible way and particularly reach those elements that thought that because they didn't actually shout "Heil Hitler", they were neutral and therefore not pro-Hitler.

Unfortunately, we also have isolationists in our own country—the United States—who are doing the work of Hitler just as effectively as Goebbels and Goering....

... We have in New York at least five different German-American groups, all pledged as loyal German-Americans to a special effort to back the war. Our Victory Committee of German-American Trade Unionists participated in the Emergency Conference of loyal German-Americans under Dr. Boenheim and Dr. Kurt Rosenfeld. They cooperated in every possible way in their efforts to bring German-Americans together. We have the Loyal German-Americans and other organizations. We feel that by all means all those organizations should come together, and we as German-American Trade Unionists could play a splendid part in such a combination. However, this takes time and no effort should be spared to continue conferences under the leadership of Dr. Schuster, Mr. Ridder and Mr. Sattler, to bring those people together.

We would like to see a mighty voice arising from all the German-American people telling Hitler where we stand and that we intend to fight his politics until death.

This conference today must lay the basis for such unity. We want first of all to reach every German-American worker in the unions and shops and in the German-American societies, to bring home the message that we pledge ourselves to fight until the menace of Hitlerism is banished from the earth. We know that this is a life and death struggle for the upkeep of our democratic institutions and our trade unions. This conference should not only work out individual duties for its members, but also to build up a nation-wide organization. The voices of German-American trade unionists must come from the shops and factories in Milwaukee, Chicago, Detroit, San Francisco, and all over the United States as a mighty movement to crush the Hitler tyranny. We must work out plans at this conference along those lines.

I greet every delegate as a general in the mighty trade union army. Our work can save thousands of lives of our fellow Americans and also bring speedier

liberation to the German people from the arch enemy of mankind—Adolf Hitler and his cohorts."

After this Mr. Obermeier offered the following agenda for consideration: 1—Greetings; 2—Guest Speaker from the Bakery Workers' Union; 3—Report of the Credentials Committee; 4—Election of a permanent chairman; 5—Report of the Resolutions Committee; 6—Guest Speakers. The program was accepted as suggested.

Following the singing of the Star-Spangled Banner, Bro. Max Kloeppel, International Representative of the Bakery and Confectionery Workers Union, A. F. of L., made an address. He brought with him a significant background in the trade union movement as well as valuable experience in World War No. 1. He surveyed the rise of Naziism in this country and in this city. He described his attempts to combat it before the aid of the police department had been enlisted and when fighting fascism in this country was undertaken by the few enlightened trade unionists who were aware of the slow encroachment of this menace on the body politic of our city and our nation. Bro. Kloeppel ended his talk with an appeal that everyone buy more bonds and stamps, and since this day was the President's birthday, he made a motion, which passed, to send a birthday greeting to President Roosevelt in the name of the assemblage.

On the recommendation of the chairman, a Credential Committee of 3, with Bro. Von Rumpf of Local 1227, U. E., was set up.

The following greetings to the Conference were read by Bro. Gustav Faber:

A telegram by Michael J. Quill, President of the Transport Workers Union of America: "Deeply regret that unforeseen illness prevents me from being with you today. I have complete confidence that your deliberations will bring forth a program which will unite all German Americans behind our Commander-in-Chief Franklin Delano Roosevelt for a United Nations victory over the Axis in 1943. With best wishes..."

A letter by Congressman Emanuel Celler of the 10th A. D. of New York.

A telegram "on behalf of 100,000 C.I.O. members in Wisconsin" from Walter J. Burke, Secretary Treasurer of the Wisconsin State Industrial Council, C.I.O., wishing good success to the Conference "meaning to heighten national unity of German Americans to smash Hitler in 1943 in the interest of all people throughout the world, including those in Germany itself."

A letter from Lisa Sergio, News Commentator of Station WQXR, wishing the members of our organization "the complete success which your initiative and your objective so fully deserve." Miss Sergio states, "Your group is an extremely important one in our war effort to

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root out all remnants of Hitler's Fifth Column in this country as well as to awaken from their lethargy those who are still helping the enemy through their indifference, deserves all possible support."

A letter from the "Assembly for a Democratic Austrian Republic," saying that "Democratic Austrians must support a Conference of German Americans that is dedicated to victory over the Axis powers."

A letter from the Japanese American Committee for Democracy, which sent a guest-delegate.

A letter from the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, Journeymen Tailors Union, Local No. 1, who also sent delegates.

A letter by R. J. Thomas, President of the International Union, U.A.W.-C.I.O., expressing his good wishes and sympathy with our aims.

A letter from the Italian-American Weekly Newspaper L'Unita del Popolo, who sent a guest-delegate.

Dr. Kurt Rosenfeld, President of the German-American Emergency Conference, former Minister of Justice in Prussia, made a stirring and inspiring appeal to the young Victory Committee to continue its work and congratulated them on sponsoring such a progressive and necessary conference. It was his feeling that the movement will take root and strengthen the underground movement wherever our activities become known.

Credentials Committee reported that 135 persons attended the Conference, 109 delegates, of which 70 were regular and 39 were fraternal. There were 70 trade unions represented, 33 A.F.of L. and 37 C.I.O. locals. 26 guests were at the Conference.

A permanent Chairman, M. J. Obermeier, and Secretary, Bro. Von Rumpf, were elected for the Conference.

A Resolutions Committee, consisting of Bro. Faber, Chairman, and Bros. Schutt (Restaurant Workers), Snopek (Joint Board Fur Dressers and Dyers), Huber (Local 1), and Sister Bianca Hene (Local 1227), was elected.

SAUL MILLS, Secretary of the Greater New York Industrial Council, C.I.O., addressed the Conference:

"The Congress of Industrial Organizations extends, through this great gathering today, its greetings of solidarity and pays tribute to the glorious and heroic fighting men and women of the underground labor movement in Germany and in all Axis-occupied nations.

We salute, too, the many thousands of American workers of German descent whose love for freedom and whose hatred for the beasts that have perverted their mother nation into the slave center of the world, have demonstrated their loyalty to America and to democracy by their valiant service and contributions on our battle fronts and on America's production front.

We recognize only too well the great stake labor has in this global conflict for the maintenance of democracy and the freedom of peoples the world over. So must we also recognize our great responsibilities to assure a peoples' victory.

We know—primarily from the sufferings of our fellow workers in Germany and wherever else fascism with the shedding of blood has taken control—that working people shall never be safe so long as this curse exists on the face of the earth.

Organized labor—the once-great trade unions and labor parties—in Germany was first to be attacked when Hitler seized the reins of government. And it was not until organized labor had been suppressed that Hitler and his satellites were able to crush every free institution in this and the other Axis-controlled nations.

The working people, through their organized might, had been the backbone of free Germany, of her great cathedrals and synagogues, of her great culture and all her free institutions.

But Hitler never really did and never will succeed in crushing the great movement of organized labor. Today, in Germany, in all oppressed lands, underground labor movements, growing in numbers and in courage, continue the struggle against fascism. You've probably heard about them, directly and indirectly. They are responsible for the thousands of pro-democratic and anti-Nazi leaflets that flood the Axis nations. They are the authors, with chalk or blood, of the big Victory V's scrawled on the walls and street pavements of Berlin.

And you've probably heard of the many German troop and supply trains that have been dynamited or derailed; of the bridges, munition dumps and factories that have been blown up. And more recently we've been getting news of strikes and sabotage in Nazi war factories and the growing guerilla warfare against Nazi-occupation troops.

It's the German worker's come back to life—to put it more properly—proving that as workers, organized, they never were dead—and never shall be.

Our purpose at this conference today, as I understand your call, is to determine and plan what we here, what we as American workers and America as a nation, can do to help the workers of occupied Europe, especially the brave Anti-Nazi working people in Germany.

The most decisive help that American workingmen and women can give to the enslaved peoples of Germany and the Nazi-occupied countries is to continue, and to extend, at whatever sacrifice necessary, our drive for greater production of the implements of war.

To produce in ever-increasing number the guns, planes, tanks and other armaments needed not only by our own forces, but by the great army of Soviet peoples crushing Hitler's hordes in Eastern Europe and the weapons needed by the underground workers movements in Germany and elsewhere who await "Der Tag"—the day of the United Nations' great offensive in Western Europe.

With the sweat and sacrifice we gladly put into this miracle of production we must also raise our voices, raise them loud and often, for the speeding of that day, for the opening of that second front.

We must let our brother trade unionists in the Nazified lands know that American labor is fighting this war with them; that we are fighting and working with them to smash the Hitler beast and that we will fight and work with them to regain and rebuild their nations for freedom and for democracy. They will be encouraged when they hear our voices.

The American workers of German descent should consider this as their special task. We can and we must get the word to these fighters—word of the great production job America is doing, word of the ever-growing military might of America, of Russia, of Great Britain, word of the heroic struggles of the underground labor movements and the guerilla fighters in other Nazi-dominated countries.

Short-wave radio broadcasts, leaflets and other means of communications are available and can be developed.

And right here in America, there is need for greater understanding among the people. They should be told of the heroism and sufferings of the anti-Nazi trade unionists in Nazi lands. They should hear and know that though it may be hidden in the underground, the torch of freedom still burns somewhere in these lands.

Organized labor in America has been most conscious of its responsibilities to the workers of the oppressed lands, to the workers who have died for our common cause and to those who still live only so they may still fight. Throughout America labor has been first to rally to every appeal for aid and succor. While we may disagree on some matters, there has been the strongest bond of unity of labor in America on aid for those who suffer under the heel of Nazism and Fascism. American labor, A.F.of L., C.I.O. and Railroad Brotherhoods, has pledged this year of 1943 to raise many millions of dollars for war relief purposes.

Here in New York City, the New York Labor War Chest, just organized by the leaders of the C.I.O., A.F.of L. and Railroad Brotherhoods, will raise 4 million dollars and already have decided to allot a sizeable share of that fund to encourage, maintain and extend the underground labor movements in occupied nations—including Nazi Germany.

I am certain this great conference shares the satisfaction and support with which labor in America greeted the "unconditional surrender" policy enunciated by President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill at Casablanca. The announcement of our great commander-in-chief was a clarion call to the forces throughout the world fighting and working for democracy. It was a timely and effective assault upon the pro-negotiated peace and appeaser elements here, in Great Britain and everywhere. So effective, in fact, that it provoked William Randolph Hearst into a

of sabotage that would hamper production and morale. We should carefully investigate every slackening of production as to its reasons. Beware of fifth columnists who do their work by spreading rumors and starting whispering campaigns. We must weed out all disloyal elements and we must give every assistance to the loyal elements. We must work for the realization of the seven-point program of the President of the United States and carry on a fight against all forces that seek to hamper or threaten to jeopardize the full victory of the Allies. We also believe that it would help the war effort and to be to the benefit of the working people of the United States, to have complete unity within the labor movement. We feel that there should be much stronger and closer relationship of the labor movement of the United Nations. . . .

. . . . We welcome our President's stand of "unconditional surrender" of the Hitler regime, and as he said, "this is not a fight against the German people but against the government that it has at the present time."

We again reiterate as strongly as we can our call to the German workers, "Get rid of Hitler and all his Nazi cohorts and become part of the civilized world on the basis of the Four Freedoms as proclaimed by President Roosevelt and endorsed by the leaders of the Allied Nations, Churchill, Chiang Kai-shek, and Stalin."

This was followed by a discussion from the floor. The following delegates participated:

Dan Rickert, Loc. 670, Building Service, C.I.O., stressed the necessity of unity among German Americans.

Lotti Kriger, Local 40, "What can be done to strengthen the unity among German American organizations?"

Frank Wedl, Painters Union Loc. 848, answered the question.

Leo Beissel, Butchers Union Loc. 174, brought forth the point that his union is not interested in German American work and asked for a remedy for this situation.

Joe Meditz, Workmen's Benefit Fund, Br. 59, spoke for the mobilization of German American organizations through the Victory Committee.

Fritz Rust, from Detroit, asked for unity in organizations.

After that Hans Marchwiza, former German miner, addressed the meeting. He gave a short but very impressive resumé of the history of the German trade unions. He called for unity of all workers and pointed out that wherever Hitler came to power, his first action was to smash the trade unions and to imprison and murder their leaders and members.

Bro. Gustav Faber reported for the resolutions committee, offering the following resolutions for consideration and adoption:

WHEREAS, we Americans of German extraction are wholeheartedly devoted to the welfare of our adopted country, the United States of America, and desire above all a speedy victory over the Axis; and

WHEREAS, the United States and its allies are fighting for the principles of freedom and democracy for all the peoples of the globe and against the tyranny of the Axis, and we are convinced that the speedy defeat of Hitler is for the ultimate benefit of the German people as well; and **WHEREAS**, the United States and its Allies are now on the offensive, and we, as German Americans, while giving every bit of energy to support the home front, may also be helpful, through knowledge of the German language, in reaching the German people, with the help of our Government, particularly through radio speeches; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that we place our services at the disposal of the Government for such purpose; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we make every possible effort to increase production, to insure our armed forces and Allies the uninterrupted delivery of materials; that we oppose any stoppage in production and declare all disputes and grievances in factories which threaten a reduction in output should be settled through proper arbitration or mediation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we be constantly on guard to expose to the authorities any sabotage that would hamper the war effort; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we work for the

realization of the seven-point program of the President of the United States, carrying on a relentless fight against all forces that seek to hamper the President in executing his policies, or that threaten to jeopardize the full victory of the Allies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will support all steps to attain unity within the United States labor movement, and with the labor movements of all the United Nations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will do everything within our power to remind Americans of German extraction of their special duties in this fight for our American homes and way of life—first and foremost among these duties being the eradication, wherever there is such a trend, of even the slightest remnants of Nazism.

(Unanimously accepted.)

A Proclamation from the American Trade Unions to the German workers, in the form of a leaflet to be dropped by the thousands over Germany to encourage the workers to revolt and turn on their oppressors, the Hitler gangsters, was accepted with wide acclaim.

Bro. Snopek presented and discussed the following Resolution:

IN ORDER to carry out the tasks outlined in the previous resolutions adopted at the Greater New York Labor Conference, held on January 30, 1943,

BE IT RESOLVED, that a permanent Council be constituted, called German American Council of Trade Unionists,

That this Council shall consist of one delegate each, representing a local, branch or shop,

and that this Council shall mobilize all German Americans through the realization of the resolutions adopted heretofore;

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that an Executive Committee be elected today consisting of: One President, One Secretary, one Secretary-Treasurer, One Recording Secretary, and Eight Vice Presidents;

that this Executive Committee shall have the task of calling the Council together in regular intervals;

that this Executive Committee shall be empowered to transact all business between council meetings and that it is obliged to give regular reports to the German American Council of Trade Unionists.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Victory Committees of German American Trade Unionists be established in all locals, branches and shops wherever German Americans are,

that all members of these committees shall be given a contribution card and that monthly contributions of 25 cents be collected from the holder of each card.

After much discussion the resolution was accepted with little modification. It was unanimously decided that the delegates present automatically become members of the German American Council of Trade Unionists.

The following elected officers are instructed to call a meeting within four weeks and to communicate with organizations not represented to send delegates.

OFFICERS:

Michael J. Obermeier, President of the Hotel and Club Employees Union, Local 6, A.F.ofL.

Gustav Faber, Secretary-Treasurer Transport Workers Union of Greater New York, C.I.O.

Leo Beissel, Butchers Union, Local 174, A.F.ofL.

Julius Berger, Furriers' Joint Council, C.I.O.

Hugo De Wald, Business Agent, Meat Cutters Union, Local 623, A.F.ofL.

Bianca Hene, Local 1227, U.E.R.M.W.A., C.I.O.

Max Kloeppel, International Representative, Bakery and Confectionary Workers Union, A.F.ofL.

Rudolph Kohler, Bakery and Confectionary Workers Union, Local 1, A.F.ofL.

Dan Rickert, Local 670, Building Service, C.I.O.

Edward Schwuchow, Carpenters and Joiners, Local 2090, C.I.O.

Fred Snopek, Joint Board of Fur Dressers' and Dyers', C.I.O.

William Von Rumpf, Local 1227, U.E.R.M.W.A., C.I.O.

Frank Wedl, Painters Union, Local 848, A.F.ofL.

Bro. Obermeier was elected President by acclamation.

Bro. Faber was elected Secretary by acclamation.

nation-wide appeal for sympathy for the common enemy.

America, and American labor in particular, has great and grave responsibilities in this global war. Ours is the responsibility to crush fascism, intolerance and oppression at home as well as abroad. Ours is the responsibility to see to it that never again shall the world forces of reaction be so strong or feel so brazen as to undertake the slaughter of human beings because of their religious or political beliefs; the segregation and persecution of men, women and children because of the color of their skin; or the suppression of workers because they choose, through their organized strength, to fight for the right to a decent living, in a decent community, in a decent world.

As Americans, as members of organized labor, we here today must reaffirm the pledge to fulfill these great responsibilities."

Following the ADDRESS of BRO. OBERMEIER, Chairman of the Victory Committee:

"We, German-American workers and trade unionists, have special and important reasons for this Conference. We would like to emphasize how Hitler miscalculated tremendously in reference to the German-Americans.

What did he want us to do? Mass sabotage, mass revolt, refusing to join the army, mass arrests and mass concentration camps. Did he succeed? No. There are some of his agents and saboteurs still at large, and not all of them are yet arrested. We must keep our eyes open on the job in the factories. We know that they are comparatively a very small number.

It has been proven that Americans of German extraction and especially the workers and trade unionists, are fully and wholly loyal in their intention to do their duty toward their adopted country—the United States. One can hear, here and there, "why should we emphasize that we are Americans of German extraction"? There are various important and definite reasons. Nobody can deny that Americans of Polish, Czechoslovakian, and Jewish etc. extraction, have special reasons to hate Hitler and make special efforts as workers, soldiers, shop keepers, farmers or officials to destroy the Axis, because Hitler is threatening not only their homes and country—the United States of America, but he destroys also the lands of their fathers and forefathers. He does not only destroy their homes, he exterminates the people with whom they are in one way or another still related. And, we German-Americans, who are first of all Americans and want to be Americans, have also our special reasons to make greater efforts to work harder, to fight better for the destruction of Hitler and the Axis. As Americans we defend to the end our nation against slavery. As workers, we will defend our rights against the most terrible slavery which is the fate of the working people wherever it has come under the iron heel of Hitler. As German-Americans we hate Hitler especially because he devastated Germany. Didn't Hitler make that country from which our fathers, forefathers and many of us come, into a torture chamber of the German and European peoples? Didn't Hitler's politics bring to the German people, with whom we still have some connection, terrible misery? Didn't 6,000,000 Germans lose their lives on the battlefields of Europe, in the war he provoked? Didn't Hitler destroy everything which our fathers and forefathers valued dearly—the powerful German trade union movement, the parties of the workers, and all democratic freedoms that are so important for the existence of the working people? Didn't Hitler destroy the German culture as we know it? The great humanitarian, scientific and cultural traditions of the German spirit were buried under the mythical junk pile of Nazi ideology. Didn't the criminal politics of Hitler make the Germans, and especially the young Germans who were destined to be better, animals that are robbing, murdering and raping the lands of Europe? Didn't Hitler lead the land of our fathers and forefathers into the most terrible catastrophe in the history of Germany? Truly, the Germany that was left behind by our fathers, forefathers and some of us, was no paradise. It had many dark periods. But unlike the prison and murder state in which Hitler and the Nazis incarcerated the German people, it was a land from which progress, culture, humanity and great onward surging ideas emanated into the whole world.

The German-Americans have special reasons to hate Hitler deeply, as deeply as we can only hate the devil

himself. Yes, we German-Americans have every reason to be the first ones in the fight and to be the best workers on the assembly line, because we want to defend our American homes and the land to which our fathers and forefathers came, to be free from the barbarism of Hitler. We have no reason to deny that we are German-Americans. We can lift our heads proudly. We feel that we, as Americans of German extraction have a special mission to fulfill in this war. We have to speak more systematically to the German people. We have to see that our voices are heard in Germany. The voice of the united German-Americans must begin to bring together all sections of the German people and the soldiers. Leaflets and manifestoes have to be printed by the million, in the name of German-Americans and written by German-Americans, to be dropped from airplanes over Germany and the German Army. Special radio stations should be established through which the German-Americans may speak to the German people 24 hours a day. Can anyone doubt that the voice of the German-American workers will be especially listened to by the German people.

The present situation demands more than ever of the German-Americans, especially the German-American workers, to take the political offensive against the Hitler regime. The armies of our allied forces went on the offensive. Under the smashing military blows, especially those of the Red Army, the crisis for all sections of society in Germany grew.

We read a few weeks ago the peace manifesto of an illegal conference in Germany which was composed of representatives of all German parties and trade unions. This manifesto of the other Germany is a cornerstone in the development of the German underground movement. . . . The solution of a speedy victory for democracy, is a revolt of the German people to get rid of Hitler. The progress of a German liberation movement helps the success of the military offensive against Hitler. The success of the military offensive makes easier the progress of the German liberation movement. One helps the other. The hour of the German-American has come! We can help save the blood of the Allies and the German people.

Let us also say and remind our compatriots in America that we are tremendously proud of the contributions that have been made by the German-Americans in building our glorious country. Too numerous are the names of the scientists, doctors, architects and progressive leaders in government to mention. German blood flowed in more than one President of the United States. In the Civil War we can point out some of the best generals and soldiers. There were German-Americans in every progressive movement against the oppression of Negroes, Jews and religion. In the last big war we had the highest ranking officer, General Pershing, the outstanding flier Rickenbacker and the blood of tens of thousands of officers and soldiers of German extraction. In our trade union movement, from its very inception, we had German trade unionists in the forefront fighting for the welfare of the workers. Many progressive accomplishments of which we are so proud today can be attributed to a great extent, to German-American progressive trade unionists. We are proud to point out that Senator Wagner, of German descent, is the father of the Wagner Act which is the outstanding achievement for the benefit of the workers in the history of the labor movement in the United States. We can point to Wendell Willkie, an outstanding liberal, and as has been said before, too many others to mention. In this war German-Americans can be found on every battlefield and a formidable list for citations of bravery are soldiers of German extraction.

This Conference today is a small beginning. It must spread out all over the United States and if possible throughout the Americas. . . .

. . . We must work hard and build up an organization, first of all in this city, and it must spread all over the country. . . .

. . . We German-American trade unionists must offer our services to the Government of the United States of America to support the home front in every possible way and through our knowledge of the German language with the cooperation of the Government to reach the German people, telling them to overthrow the Hitler regime.

We must be on guard continuously against any elements

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5/2/2006

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REPORT OF PUBLIC MEETING

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TO:

The attached report was received by
this office from a source believed
to be reliable. The document has
not been processed: it is forwarded
in the form in which it was received
for such interest as it may present.

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Att.: MR-110

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R E S T R I C T E D

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 04-19-2006 BY 60309/AUC
TAM/DCG/CAK

29 November 1943
MR-110

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<u>Event</u>	MEETING OF THE <u>VICTORY COMMITTEE OF</u> <u>GERMAN-AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS</u>
<u>Speakers</u>	<u>Christian Blohm, Felix Boenheim, Gustav</u> <u>Faber, M. J. Obermeier, the Reverend</u> <u>A. Clayton Powell, Jr., Michael J. Quill,</u> <u>Victor F. Ridder</u>
<u>Place</u>	Transport Workers Hall, New York City
<u>Date</u>	20 November 1943

A conference designed to unite German-American workers in trade unions throughout the United States behind the struggle against the Axis brought together in New York 150 delegates from 91 CIO and AFL trade unions and representatives of numerous foreign nationality groups. The conference endorsed a proposal for a mass meeting of German-Americans to be held in January in New York as a demonstration of their unity with all Americans against the Axis. Represented at the gathering were the American Slav Committee, the Austro-American Trade Union Committee, the Greek-American Trade Committee, the Italian-American Victory Committee, the Japanese-American Committee for Democracy, the Polish-American Trade Union Committee, and the Spanish Committee for Democracy.

Of particular interest was the appearance, in company with Felix Boenheim of the German American Emergency Conference and other German-Americans of the left wing, of Victor F. Ridder, publisher of the New Yorker Staats Zeitung und Herold. A statement by Ridder that he was surprised to receive the invitation to attend the meeting

ENCLOSURE

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as he had been known as "a reactionary and a staunch Republican" was greeted with laughter and applause. Mr. Ridder made a speech urging that business management and labor get together in order to build a strong economy.

A resolution adopted by the delegates pledged "full support to the United Americans of German Descent, headed by Victor F. Ridder, George N. Shuster and Otto Sattler" in any endeavor to unify German-American efforts toward a United Nations victory; and resolved further that the "Third Labor Conference of American Workers of German Descent" call upon the steering committee of the United Americans of German Descent to take practical steps to convene a national conference of German-Americans at the earliest possible date.

Other resolutions pledged support to the forthcoming International Congress (of trade unions) to be held in London, June 1944; urged the AFL and the CIO to set up a special committee for the reconstruction of the free trade unions of Europe; and suggested that leaders of the AFL and CIO prevail upon Government agencies to make democratic literature available to German war prisoners. It was also resolved to designate the German American (organ of the German American Emergency Conference) the official organ of the Victory Committee of German-American Trade Unionists,

The speakers were M. J. Obermeier, president of the Hotel and Club Employees Union, Local No. 6 (CIO) and chairman of the Victory Committee; A. Clayton Powell, Jr., Councilman of New York; Michael J. Quill, Councilman-elect of New York and president of the Transport Workers Union; Christian Blohm, of the German Workmen's Benefit Fund; Gustav Faber, secretary-treasurer of the Transport Workers Union and vice chairman of the Victory Committee; Dr. Boenheim, and Mr. Ridder. Their speeches dealt mainly with the importance of uniting labor and the German-Americans behind the fight against Hitler. They looked to the workers, not to "persons in high positions," for leadership and victory.

Letters of greeting were received from Wendell Willkie, Mayor La Guardia, and Congressman Vito Marcantonio.

At the conclusion of the meeting telegrams making known the results of the conference were sent to President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill, Marshal Stalin, and Secretary of State Hull.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK**

FILE NO. **100-25590**

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REPORT MADE AT New York City, New York	DATE WHEN MADE 1/8/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 10/14, 27, 29, 11/5, 6/43	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div> LBC
TITLE VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS; GERMAN AMERICAN COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONISTS; MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER;			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Review of New York files indicates Victory Committee anti-Nazi and working for establishment of workers government in Germany. OBERMEIER in speeches tells members to assist FBI in ferreting out Nazi spies and saboteurs and advocates labor unity among trade unions of all united nations.

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DATE 2/8/89 BY SP-1 AC/SC**

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REFERENCE: b2
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Report of SA dated June 30, 283013
1943 at New York City, New York.

DETAILS:

From informant it was ascertained that KURT ROSENFELD, 305 Broadway, New York, New York wrote to a Movement "Free Germany", stating that the German American Emergency Conference could not join the movement in Mexico because the Emergency Conference was an American organization consisting of American citizens of German extraction interested in American politics. ROSENFELD advised that an attempt was being made in the U. S. to organize a committee which could cooperate with the movement in England and Mexico with the assistance of the government which has now shown an interest in a German American government. ROSENFELD indicated that this committee could send appeals and broadcasts to Germany or discuss questions connection with the future of Germany. He indicated that he was writing to HEINRICH MANN in order to persuade him to take the first steps for the creation of such a committee.

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>E. E. Conroy</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 1 - Captain R. C. MacFall, DIO, 3 ND 1 - Colonel S. V. CONSTANT, ID, 2 SC 3 - New York	<div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">100-96104-8</div> <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">40</div>
	<div style="float: right; text-align: right;"> RECORDED & INDEXED 1/1 EX 53 </div>
COPY IN FILE <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">55 JAN 24 1944</div>	

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On June 21, 1942 confidential informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau attended a rally of the German American Conference held at the Hotel Capital, New York City. He indicated that this was a purely Communist affair in which the key figures were Sergei Kournakoff, Soviet Propagandist, Dr. BELLA DODD, Dr. FELIX BOENHEIM and FREDRICK N. MYERS. []

[] indicated that these last three individuals were well known Communists. He indicated that MICHAEL OBERMEIER spoke and demanded a second front and advocated the bombardment of Germany with American shortwave broadcasts to bring about a third front, the revolution in Germany.

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A review by confidential informant [] of Volume 1, No. 4, issue of the German American dated August 1942 indicates that this volume contains an article by M. J. OBERMEIER. The article asks for the appointment of delegates for the September conference of the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists and vociferously demands that workers denounce Nazis to the FBI and demand their immediate dismissal by employers. [] advised that the Victory Committee of the German American Trade Unionists has many followers in the Bakers Union, local 1, New York and in the Bakers Union, local 50, where 2,000 out of 60,000 members are of German descent. The joint board of Fur Dressers and Dyers, New York, the Bakers Union, local 70, New York, the Transport workers union, New York, the Newark Unions, and the Furniture Workers Union, 45B are also active and work for the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists. Many members of these organizations signed an appeal of the Victory Committee to the German workers in Germany in which they promised their German colleagues the will to solidarity. It was planned to distribute leaflets with this appeal to the German workers by means of allied planes.

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[] advised the New York office that he had attended the Yorkville Rally held at the Yorkville Casino, 210 East 86th Street, New York, New York on October 1, 1943. The topic for discussion was, "What will Happen With Germany". There were about 200 persons present, most of whom were middle aged men. Among the seven sponsors was the Victory Committee of German Trade Unionists and German American Emergency Conference. The chairman stated that the purpose of the meeting was to establish and develop an organization among German Americans to do everything possible in this country for the overthrow of the HITLER regime and to promote the idea of permitting the creation in Germany, after the war, of a people's government dominated by "real Germans" who were not influenced by territorial aggrandizement and the idea of becoming self sufficient and making up their deficiencies by taking things from other nations. MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER, chairman of the Victory Committee, spoke for about a half hour. His speech was definitely anti-Nazi and he stressed the need for the overthrow of the present regime in Germany even if by working

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toward that end the German Americans found themselves in opposition to their own relatives in Germany. He stressed the need for substituting as an alternative for unconditional surrender the creation of a government in Germany which would be sponsored to a large extent by the workers. He indicated there were still a number of pro-Nazis in Yorkville and that the job of ferreting them out could not be left entirely to the FBI. He stated that it was the duty of every German American to do everything possible to offset and nullify the efforts of pro-Nazis to spread propaganda in this country. [] advised that an unidentified woman who was obviously an experienced speaker followed OBERMEIER and elaborated on his remarks concerning the part workers should play in the creation of a government. [] advised that this woman gave the impression she was strongly Communistic in her views.

From the records of Special Squad #1, New York City Police Department it was ascertained that JULIUS KORHLER, member of the Bakers Union, local 1, and Secretary of the German American Trade Union Council was one of the speakers at the Second Front and International Labor Unity Rally at the Metropolitan Opera House, 133 West 55th Street. There were approximately 1800 persons present and the purpose of the meeting was to support the seven point economic program as presented by President ROOSEVELT and to put into effect the ROOSEVELT, CHURCHILL, MOLOTOV agreement on the second front now. The further aims of the rally were direct alliance with the Anglo Soviet Trade Union Committee and for labor unity among all trade unions of all the united nations. The records of Special Squad #1 indicate that the German American Trade Union Committee is busy organizing an underground movement in Germany.

In the Daily Worker for April 9, 1943, page 4, column 3 there is an article which states that a tremendous rally was to be held June 7, in Madison Square Garden to demand "a two-fronted" war at home and abroad confirming the right of every American to full participation in the united nations victory and condemning discrimination against 15,000,000 negro Americans. The meeting was initiated by the Peoples Committee and the Negro Labor Victory Committee. Subject OBERMEIER was listed as one of the sponsors.

- P E N D I N G -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

At New York City, New York

*Will interview RUDOLPH KATZ, assistant editor of the Neue Volkszeitung, 227 East 48th Street, New York City to determine the current activities of the German American Victory Council in relation to MIKE OBERMEIER and the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists.

*Will ascertain from Immigration and Naturalization Service the number of trips and duration of said trips to Europe on part of MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER.

*Will report further activities of instant organization.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

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☐ The Office of Censorship, New York City. The letter from which the information was taken is dated October 1, 1942, New York file 100-20501-50.

☐

☐ Intelligence Division, 2nd Service Command. The information was taken from a communication to the New York Field office dated October 7, 1943 New York file 65-5839-9138.

DECLASSIFICATION FILE

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

EWB:RAF
100-25590

DECLASSIFIED BY 60309/AUC TAM/DCG/CAK
ON 03-21-2006

New York, New York
March 22 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

Director, FBI

Re: VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN-AMERICAN
TRADE UNIONISTS; GERMAN-AMERICAN
COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONISTS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith are two copies of a typewritten verbatim report of the meeting of the GERMAN-AMERICAN VICTORY COMMITTEE, 701 Eighth Avenue, New York City, Local No. 6, submitted by [redacted] who is being developed by the New York Office as a Confidential Informant, but has not as yet been given a symbol number.

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The original report is being maintained in the case file of captioned subject.

There is also being enclosed herewith one copy of a pamphlet published by the CIO Publicity Department, 718 Jackson Place, Northwest, Washington, D. C., which was distributed to all the members at the above meeting.

Very truly yours,

E. E. Conroy
E. E. CONROY
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosures (3)

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Op. 13

EX-11

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22 MAR 25 1944

61 MAR 30 1944

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DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60309/AUC

TAM/DCG/CAK
"German American Victory Committee
701 - 8th Ave., N.Y.C., Local #6

"March 18, 44.

"President: M. J. Obermeier (Pres. Hotel & Club Empl. Union L. #6)
Chairman: Gustav Faber (Sec. Tres. of Transport Workers Union)
Sec. Treasurer: Snowpek (FRED) Fur Dressers and Dyers Union)
Present: 34 members of different German American Trade Unionists.

"Meeting opened at 3 p.m. and presided over by Obermeier. Gustav Faber, (Union Leader) outlined the lack of enthusiasm and laxity of organization of German Americans and Americ. of German extraction in Trade Unions. He assured members present the full support of S. Hillman, several other C.I.O Leaders and progressive A.F.L. Leaders as to Drive of enlarging membership of G.A.V. Committee on a big scale. 20 millions of German speaking Citizens must be reached in order to conform to our Resolutions of last meeting, and then enter into politics on a national scale. I have had a 3 hours discussion with Brig. Gen. Bryant (Charge of Prisoners of War) in Wash., D.C., and finally our Germ. American Newspaper was permitted to enter Prisoner of War Camps. We must educate them to our way of thinking and eliminate the Gestapo amongst them (Prisoner of War Camps). Several have been killed for their democratic stand. Our Govt. is not doing enough. I also want to remind you to support our Russ. War Relief Kit Drive, do your duty because, Russ. Soldiers go through a hard and bitter struggle to help free the German people. Do not forget to register for the Primaries. The United Labor Front will give you in due time the candidates, which you must support on behalf of our Com. in Chief Pres. Roosevelt. --

"Snowpek, urged to make generous donations to G.A.V.C., and support it with money, and sign up members. (Initiation fee \$2.00, dues 25¢ monthly. Attend G. American V.C. Dance and Refresh. Affair, to be held, April 4, 44, at Mozart Cafe, 86th Street, N.Y.C. Prominent Persons will be there, Germ. Amer. League, Germ. Amer. Conference, and many others. --

"Obermeier names Germ. Amer. Trade Unionist to be accepted for 25¢ to be printed in Germ. Amer. Newspaper for the benefit of German Prisoners of war, which can get in contact with you by mail. --

"Also present: Willie Ohme, Germ. Communist exiled by Germ. authorities from Germany before Hitler's Regime, working in Hotel St. George Banquet Dpt. Alex Harness, Alfred Gehlert, German Communists, both very active amongst Banquet waiters, in charge of Russ. War Rel. Kit Drive. --

"/s/

/s/ Good
EWH
3/20/44

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ENCLOSURE

100-96104-9

THE STORY OF SCAPEGOATS IN HISTORY

They Got The Blame

THE SCAPEGOAT TRICK IS AS OLD AS HISTORY ITSELF. THE NAZIS USED IT TO SEIZE POWER IN GERMANY, TO WEAKEN FROM WITHIN THEIR ENEMIES IN EUROPE. THEY EVEN TRIED TO "DIVIDE AND CONQUER" THE UNITED STATES! TO KNOW THE TRICK IS TO BE ON GUARD AGAINST IT. THAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS STORY- TO EXPOSE THE SCAPEGOAT TRICK AND HOW IT WORKS.



TO DISCOVER HOW THE SCAPEGOAT TRICK CAME INTO EXISTENCE, WE VISIT A VILLAGE OF THE PRIMITIVE BHARS TRIBE IN INDIA, WHERE AN EPIDEMIC OF CHOLERA HAS BROKEN OUT.



THESE SIMPLE PEOPLE KNOW OF ONLY ONE CAUSE FOR THEIR TROUBLES...EVIL DEMONS.

THE BHARS PRIESTS SWING INTO ACTION. FROM THE ROOF OF EACH HOUSE THEY TAKE SOME STRAW.



MIX THE STRAW WITH RICE AND SPICES!

THEN WE WILL BURN IT AT THE ALTAR TO APPEASE THE GODS!

This feature, reprinted from TRUE COMICS magazine, is based upon the pamphlet, "They Got the Blame," by Kenneth Gould, International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations. Copyrighted. Printed in U. S. A.

THEN THE PRIESTS PICK UP A YOUNG WATER BUFFALO FROM THE TRIBE'S HERD.



THEY DAUB THE BUFFALO WITH RED PAINT AND TIE SOME CLOVES AND GRAIN TO ITS BACK WITH A YELLOW CLOTH...

WITH SHOUTS AND BEATING OF DRUMS, THE ANIMAL IS DRIVEN THROUGH THE VILLAGE, CHASED INTO THE JUNGLE, AND NEVER PERMITTED TO RETURN.



WHAT IS THIS ALL ABOUT? THE ANSWER IS SIMPLE. THE PRIMITIVE BHARS BELIEVE THEY HAVE FRIGHTENED THE CHOLERA "DEMONS" INTO THE BODY OF THE UNFORTUNATE ANIMAL. THE BUFFALO IS THEIR "SCAPEGOAT." HE IS MADE TO SUFFER FOR THE TRIBE'S MISFORTUNE. THE VILLAGE NOW REJOICES, CONVINCED THAT THE PLAGUE HAS BEEN CARRIED AWAY IN THE BODY OF THE ANIMAL.

THE EARLY CHRISTIANS WERE PERSECUTED AND USED AS SCAPEGOATS BY THE ROMANS.



HE IS RIGHT. THE GODS ARE ANGRY BECAUSE WE PERMIT THE CHRISTIANS TO LIVE AMONG US! LET US DRIVE THEM OUT!

LOOK! CHRISTIANS! AFTER THEM!



CHRISTIANS WERE BEATEN, TORTURED, EXECUTED. IN THE REIGN OF ROMAN EMPEROR TRAJAN, MERELY BEING A CHRISTIAN WAS CONSIDERED A CRIMINAL OFFENSE!

IF THERE WAS A FIRE, FLOOD, DROUGHT OR FAMINE, THE CHRISTIANS WERE BLAMED, MADE THE SCAPEGOAT. OFTEN THEY WERE THROWN TO THE LIONS.



IN 64 A.D., WHEN ROME WAS DESTROYED BY FIRE, THE EMPEROR NERO WAS SUSPECTED OF HAVING SET THE FIRE. BUT HE KNEW HOW TO DIVERT SUSPICION FROM HIMSELF. HE HAD A CONVENIENT SCAPEGOAT.



NERO SUCCEEDED IN FOOLING THE PEOPLE INTO PERSECUTING THE CHRISTIANS FOR THE DEEDS OF WHICH HE AND OTHERS WERE GUILTY. CHRISTIANS WERE TREATED AS SCAPEGOATS BY THE ROMANS UNTIL CHRISTIANITY BECAME THE OFFICIAL RELIGION OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE DURING THE REIGN OF CONSTANTINE (323 TO 337 A.D.).

IN EVERY COUNTRY THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO CAN BE DUPED INTO BLAMING THEIR MISFORTUNES ON INNOCENT SCAPEGOATS. COLONIAL AMERICA WAS NO EXCEPTION.

SCENES LIKE THIS OCCURRED AROUND SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS, IN 1692.

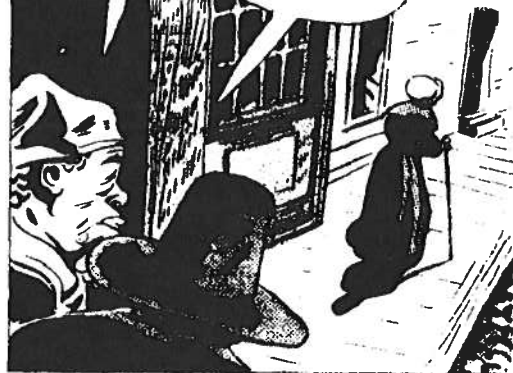
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY MY CROPS FAILED THIS YEAR!

I TELL YOU, SETH, IT'S THAT ROGERS WOMAN. SHE'S A WITCH! I SAW HER PASSING THIS WAY LAST MONTH. SHE PUT A CURSE ON YOUR LAND!



THERE'S THAT ROGERS WOMAN, SETH!

COME ON! WE'LL DRAG HER TO THE COURT AND HAVE HER HANGED AS A WITCH!



THIS WOMAN HAS SOLD HER SOUL TO THE DEVIL! SHE CAST A SPELL ON MY CROPS AND RUINED THEM. SHE'S A DANGEROUS WITCH AND SHOULD BE HANGED!



BEFORE THIS FLAME OF INSANITY HAD BURNED OUT, NINETEEN INNOCENT SCAPEGOATS LIKE "THE ROGERS WOMAN" HAD BEEN HANGED.

BEGINNING IN THE 1620'S AND LASTING FOR ABOUT SIXTY YEARS, THE IRISH FLOCKED TO AMERICA IN LARGE NUMBERS.



THOUGH THEY CONTRIBUTED GREATLY TO THE RAPID GROWTH OF AMERICA'S CITIES AND RAILROADS, IRISH IMMIGRANTS WERE PERSECUTED POLITICALLY AND ECONOMICALLY.

THEN AS NOW, SUBVERSIVE AND UN-AMERICAN GROUPS MASQUERADED UNDER HIGH-SOUNDING PATRIOTIC NAMES.

THE IRISH REFUGEES ARE RUINING OUR COUNTRY! LET'S SHIP THEM BACK WHERE THEY CAME FROM!

HE'S RIGHT! THE IRISH HAVE CAUSED UNEMPLOYMENT AND PANICS. LET'S DRIVE THE REFUGEES OUT! AMERICA FOR AMERICANS!



ONCE AGAIN UNSCRUPULOUS MEN FOOLED THE PEOPLE INTO USING AN INNOCENT MINORITY AS A SCAPE GOAT!

THE PERSECUTION OF MINORITIES BECAUSE THEY WERE CONSIDERED "FOREIGN" WAS A SHORT STEP TO PERSECUTION OF THESE SAME GROUPS BECAUSE OF A DIFFERENCE IN RELIGION

FATHER, I WAS IN A FIGHT WITH SOME BOYS...THEY SAID OUR CHURCH CELLAR WAS STACKED WITH GUNS, THAT THE IRISH CATHOLICS ARE GOING TO START A REVOLUTION AGAINST OUR GOVERNMENT! THIS IS NOT TRUE, IS IT, FATHER?

NO, MY SON.



WE CATHOLICS ARE ACCUSED OF MANY THINGS. AMERICA IS A YOUNG NATION, MY SON. SOMEDAY ALL THE DIFFERENT RACES AND RELIGIOUS SECTS HERE WILL LEARN TO LIVE IN PEACE TOGETHER!



RIOTS AGAINST CATHOLICS BROKE OUT IN MANY EASTERN CITIES. IN 1834, AN URSULINE CONVENT WAS BURNED TO THE GROUND.



AFTER THE CIVIL WAR, THE FLAMES OF SECTIONAL HATRED WERE KEPT BURNING BY THE ACTIONS OF NORTHERN ADVENTURERS, "CARPET-BAGGERS", WHO MOVED INTO THE SOUTHERN STATES, TAKING OVER LANDS AND PROPERTY.

YOU'VE TAKEN OUR HOME AWAY FROM US BY TRICKERY, BUT YOU WON'T KEEP IT! WE SOUTHERNERS WILL BAND TOGETHER AND DRIVE OUT MEN LIKE YOU!



THE KU KLUX KLAN WAS THE SOUTH'S ANSWER TO THE "CARPETBAGGERS".



IF YOU MEN KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR YOU, YOU'LL GET OUT OF THIS STATE AND NEVER COME BACK!

THE KLAN, HOWEVER, BECAME AN INSTRUMENT FOR TERRORIZING NEGROES AND OTHER SCAPEGOAT MINORITY GROUPS.



BUT HE HASN'T DONE ANYTHING WRONG! WHY MUST YOU TORTURE HIM?

THIS IS JUST A WARNING TO YOUR KIND. JUST IN CASE YOU GET IDEAS THAT YOU GOT RIGHTS!

IN RECENT YEARS, THE INFLUENCE OF THE KLAN HAS GREATLY DIMINISHED. THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF GREAT NEGRO LEADERS LIKE BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, AND WITH THE HELP OF OTHER PATRIOTIC CIVIC-MINDED AMERICANS, THE NEGRO RACE IS TODAY APPROACHING POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL POSITION WHICH THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE GUARANTEES TO ALL, REGARDLESS OF RACE, COLOR OR CREED.



WHILE AMERICA WAS SUCCESSFULLY DEVELOPING THE DEMOCRATIC IDEAL OF FREEDOM AND EQUALITY, 3,000 MILES AWAY A NEW EXPLOITER OF "SCAPEGOATISM" WAS RISING TO POWER

THE JEWS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL OF GERMANY'S ILLS. I WILL DRIVE THEM OUT, DESTROY THEM UTTERLY. THEN YOU WILL ALL BE PROSPEROUS AND HAPPY ONCE AGAIN!



BUT, MEIN FUEHRER, WILL THE PEOPLE BELIEVE THESE THINGS YOU SAY ABOUT THE JEWS?

THERE ARE FOOLS WHO WILL BELIEVE ANYTHING... ESPECIALLY IF IT IS A BIG ENOUGH LIE!



IN ADDITION TO DESTROYING THE LIVES OF INNOCENT SCAPEGOATS, THE NAZIS BUILT BONFIRES OF THE BOOKS OF SOME OF GERMANY'S GREAT WRITERS AND POETS EITHER BECAUSE THEIR AUTHORS WERE "NON-ARYAN", OR BECAUSE THEY WROTE IN PRAISE OF LIBERTY AND DEMOCRACY.



GREED AND FEAR CAUSED MANY TO BE FOOLED INTO SUPPORTING THE "NEW ORDER".



IN EXCHANGE FOR YOUR HELP, I WILL SEE THAT YOU GET ALL THE MATERIALS YOU NEED FOR YOUR FACTORIES WHEN I AM IN POWER. AND YOU CAN PAY THE WORKERS ANY WAGES YOU PLEASE!

WHEN THE NAZIS SEIZED POWER, ORGANIZED GANGSTERISM RULED GERMANY. THOSE WHO HAD TRIED TO APPEASE HIM SOON LEARNED THAT "YOU CAN'T DO BUSINESS WITH HITLER" AND INTO CONCENTRATION CAMPS WERE HERDED ALL WHO TRIED TO SPEAK THE TRUTH ABOUT HITLER AND HIS FOLLOWERS



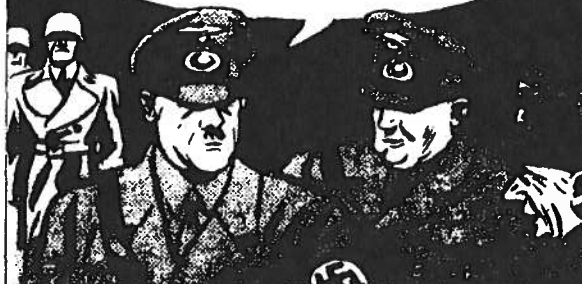
HITLER WAS AWARE THAT FREEDOM OF WORSHIP WAS DANGEROUS TO HIS DICTATORSHIP. HE CLOSED BETWEEN 9,000 AND 11,000 CATHOLIC SCHOOLS, ARRESTED AND IMPRISONED COUNTLESS PRIESTS AND MINISTERS.



IN GERMANY YOU MUST PREACH ONLY THE WORD OF ADOLF HITLER!

HITLER'S DIABOLIC SCHEME EMBRACED THE WHOLE WORLD.

EVERY COUNTRY HAS MINORITIES. IN AMERICA, ESPECIALLY, IT WILL BE EASY FOR OUR AGENTS TO INCITE GROUP AGAINST GROUP. REMEMBER THE BIGGER THE LIES WE TELL, THE QUICKER THE PEOPLE WILL BELIEVE THEM!



HITLER FLOODED THE U.S. WITH NAZI PROPOGANDA. HIS AGENTS TRIED TO SPLIT AMERICA INTO HOSTILE GROUPS.

THE SCAPEGOAT TECHNIQUE WAS IMPORTED FROM BERLIN.

BLAME EVERYTHING ON THE JEWS! UNEMPLOYMENT, HIGH PRICES...EVERYTHING! IT WORKED IN GERMANY, AND IT WILL WORK HERE!

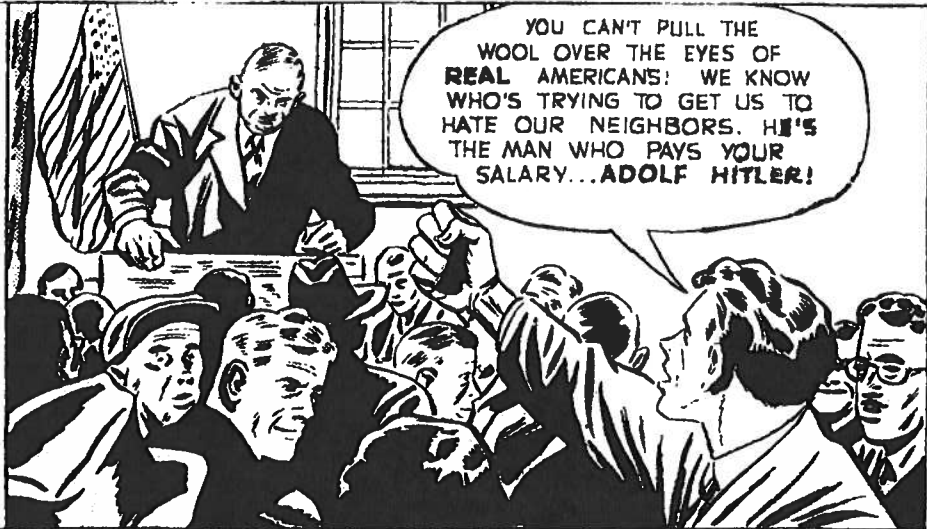
JA, THESE AMERICANS WILL BELIEVE ANYTHING!



WE WILL SOON HAVE THEM FIGHTING AMONG THEMSELVES! AND WE WILL MOVE IN AND TAKE OVER THE GOVERNMENT! WE WILL NOT FAIL DER FUEHRER!



THE VAST MAJORITY OF AMERICANS WERE AWARE OF HITLER'S PLAN TO "DIVIDE AND CONQUER" AMERICA FROM WITHIN. BUT A FEW, EITHER FOOLED BY NAZI LIES, OR BECAUSE THEY HATED AMERICA'S DEMOCRATIC FORM OF GOVERNMENT, BECAME HIS SUPPORTERS.



YOU CAN'T PULL THE WOOL OVER THE EYES OF REAL AMERICANS! WE KNOW WHO'S TRYING TO GET US TO HATE OUR NEIGHBORS. HE'S THE MAN WHO PAYS YOUR SALARY...ADOLF HITLER!



MARCHING TOGETHER IN THE COMMON CAUSE OF HUMAN FREEDOM, THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE UNITED NATIONS ARE DETERMINED TO BUILD A WORLD FREE OF PREJUDICE AND INTOLERANCE... A WORLD IN WHICH THE BASIC RULE OF CONDUCT FOR NATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS IS THE GOLDEN RULE...DO UNTO OTHERS AS YOU WOULD HAVE OTHERS DO UNTO YOU!

This is CIO Publication No. 95. Distributed Free as a Public Service.
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To all Members and Friends:

The basic purpose of the CIO, as expressed in its constitution, is "to bring about the effective organization of the working men and women of America regardless of race, creed, color, or nationality, and to unite them for common action into labor unions for their mutual aid and protection."

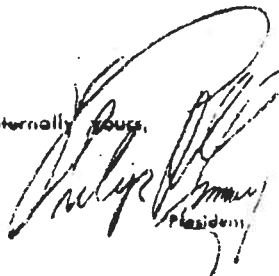
To win this war against fascism and tyranny, and to win the peace as well, all who believe in democracy must stand united

WHATEVER THEIR RACE, CREED OR COLOR

if they would preserve the blessing of freedom and human dignity.

I direct this little pamphlet to your earnest attention. It tells a profound truth in a simple and stirring way.

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DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60309/AUC
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Fraternally,

President

The CIO also publishes many other pamphlets and leaflets on important national issues, as well as a national weekly newspaper, *The CIO News* (Subscription \$1.00 a year in the U.S.) Send for literature list and address orders to:

PUBLICITY DEPARTMENT
CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS
715 JACKSON PLACE, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

[12-25-54] 15

REC'D
RAB:AKR
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SAC, NEW YORK

June 12, 1944

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

It is noted that the above-named subject is being reported by your office along with the investigation of the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists; German American Council of Trade Unionists. If your office has not already done so, it is desired that the activities of Michael John Obermeier be reported in a separate case entitled "Michael John Obermeier, Internal Security - C," and that an initial report so captioned be submitted containing full information concerning his birth, citizenship, background and Communist activities and connections.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/29/80 BY SP4 JBR-DLC

2/8/89 SP1 AG/C
283013

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Nease
Mr. Quinn Tamm

100-96104-10
JUN 23 1944

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ON 03-21-2006

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

NY FILE NO. 100-25590 AM

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 5/18/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/8, 21, 22/44	REPORT MADE BY <div></div>	b6 b7C
TITLE *CHANGED* VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS; GERMAN AMERICAN COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONISTS; MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, with alias; Michael J. Obermeier			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: KEY FIGURE VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS urges full support for SIDNEY HILLMAN and other C.I.O. leaders in drive to enlarge membership. Participation noted in Russian War Relief Kit Drive for aid of Russian soldiers and 4th War Loan Drive. Committee plans campaign to "educate" German war prisoners along anti-Nazi lines. OBERMEIER registered with L.B. #271, Flushing, L.I., N.Y.; reported to have once been employed by Intourist in Russia and to have been a delegate to Red Trade Union International in Moscow in 1933; member of Trade Union Unity League in 1930. Informants report subject OBERMEIER is German alien who denies Communist affiliation, but consistent follower of Party line. Subject filed application for citizenship in NYC 4/25/39.			ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE	
<div>APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DATE 8-2-80</div> <div>Classified by 283013 283013 Declassify on: 283013 283013</div> <div>REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent <div></div> dated January 8, 1944 at New York, New York.</div> <div>DETAILS: The title of this report is being marked changed in order to reflect the full name of the subject to be MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER as indicated by the records of Local Board #271, Flushing, Long Island, New York.</div> <div>APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <div></div> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE</div> <div>DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 100-96104-10 18 MAY 22 1944 CONFIDENTIAL EX-18</div> <div>COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 1 - Capt. E. B. Nixon, DIO, 3ND 1 - Col. S.V. Constant, D. of I., 2SC - New York</div>				

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER is considered a Key Figure in the New York Field Division.

The "German American", a publication sponsored by the VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS, dated March, 1944, under the caption "Trade Union Committee Girds for Action in 1944; Call Meeting of German Americans, March 18th, 2:30; Hotel and Club Employees Union Headquarters, 701 8th Avenue" reads as follows:

"

In order to speed Victory over the Axis and build an enduring peace, the German Americans, especially the Trade Unionists must play an ever-greater part in our country's war effort. The German Americans of New York, irrespective of their economic background, religion or political beliefs, must get their entire support behind the war effort, so that a speedy Victory and a post-war Security can be ours.

Why must the German Americans be for achieving unity of action with the rest of the American People?

Why must the German Americans help in the guaranteeing of the carrying out the Teheran and Cairo decisions, thereby assuring the German Workers of a Free and Democratic Germany?

To help understand and achieve these purposes the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists are calling a Council Meeting for Saturday March 18th, 2:30 P.M. at the headquarters of the Hotel and Club Employees Union, 701 8th Avenue, N.Y.C.

Prominent Trade Union Leaders and Legislative Leaders will speak. We urge all the readers of the "German American" to attend this meeting and bring your friends and neighbors. "

[Confidential Informant] furnished the following report on the above mentioned meeting of the Victory Committee of the German American Trade Unionists held on March 18, 1944:

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"German American Victory Committee
701 - 8th Ave., N.Y.C., Local #6

March 18, 44.

President: M. J. Obermeier (Pres. Hotel & Club Empl. Union L.#6)
Chairman: Gustav Faber (Sec. Treas. of Transport Workers Union)
Sec. Treasurer: Snowpek (FRED) Fur Dressers and Dyers Union
Present: 34 members of different German American Trade Unionists.

Meeting opened at 3 pm and presided over by Obermeier. Gustav Faber,

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(Union Leader) outlined the lack of enthusiasm and laxity of organization of German Americans and Americ. of German extraction in Trade Unions. He assured members present the full support of S. Hillman, several other C.I.O. leaders and progressive A.F.L. Leaders as to Drive of enlarging membership of G.A.V. Committee on a big scale. 20 millions of German speaking Citizens MUST be reached in order to conform to our Resolutions of last meeting, and then enter into politics on a national scale. I have had a 3 hours discussion with Brig. Gen. Bryant (Charge of Prisoners of War) in Wash., D. C., and finally our Germ. American Newspaper was permitted to enter Prisoner of War Camps. We must educate them to our way of thinking and eliminate the Gestapo amongst them (Prisoner of War Camps). Several have been killed for their democratic stand. Our Govt. is not doing enough. I also want to remind you to support our Russ. War Relief Kit Drive, do your duty because, Russ. Soldiers go through a hard and bitter struggle to help free the German people. Do not forget to register for the Primaries. The United Labor Front will give you in due time the candidates, which you must support on behalf of our Com. in Chief Pres. Roosevelt. --

Snowpek, urged to make generous donations to G.A.V.C., and support it with money, and sign up members. (Initiation fee \$2.00, dues 25¢ monthly.) Attend G. American V.C. Dance and Refresh. Affair, to be held, April 4, 1944, at Mozart Cafe, 86th Street, N.Y.C. Prominant Persons will be there, Germ. Amer. League, Germ. Amer. Conference, and many others. --

Obermeier names Germ. Amer. Trade Unionist to be accepted for 25¢ to be printed in Germ. Amer. Newspaper for the benefit of German Prisoners of war, which can get in contact with you by mail. --

Also present: Willie Ohme, Germ. Communist, exiled by Germ. authorities from Germany before Hitler's Regime, working in Hotel St. George Banquet Dpt. Alex. Harness, Alfred Gehlert, German Communists, both very active amongst Banquet waiters, in charge of Russ. War Rel. Kit Drive. --

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/s/



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In the March, 1944 issue of the "German American", the following article appeared:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

V.-COMMITTEE FORMED
IN WAITERS LOCAL 1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

At a well attended meeting called by the German-American members of the Waiters Local 1, on Thursday, February 10, at the Local's headquarters, a new Local Victory Committee was formed. The response to the program of the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists was unanimous. Michael J. Obermeier, Chairman of the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists, addressed the meeting. Mr. Obermeier stressed the fact that German elements in our country must speak out against Hitler's Germany and take a more active role in the American war effort. He also pointed out that only in the carrying out of the Teheran decisions can we hope for a free and democratic Germany.

SAM SPITZER, President of Local 1, welcomed the Committee and pointed out that German Americans have always had an admirable record in our country's labor movement. He cited this committee as added proof. Brother GENTILI, Organizer of Local 1, spoke on the need of unity of all national groups in the constant fight against reaction.

Brother REINHOLD, only German American member of the Local's Executive Board, called for the building of the committee and called for a united movement of German Americans in our country.

The credit for organizing this committee goes to Brother JOE REICHEL and Brother CARL FELLINGER, who were elected chairman and secretary respectively.

The following article also appeared in the March, 1944 issue of the "German American":

G. A. LABOR ON THE AIR
V.-Committee's Activities in the Fourth
War Loan Drive

Under the auspices of the German American War Finance Committee and with the cooperation of Radio Station WWRL members of the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists spoke in a series of broadcasts, presenting labor's views of why we have to back the attack, showing that trade unionists stand solidly behind our boys in the front lines.

The above article listed the following as speakers:

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- * ~~EMIL~~ ~~ROMBERG~~ Member of Local #3, Electrical Workers Union, A.F.L.
- ~~EDWARD~~ ~~SCHWUCHOW~~ Secretary,
Carpenters Union #2090
- * ~~FRED~~ ~~SNOPEK~~ Treasurer of the Victory Committee and member of the Joint Board of Fur Dressers and Dyers, C.I.O.
- * ~~JOSEPH~~ ~~REICHL~~ Member of Waiters Union,
Local #1, A.F.L.
- ~~LISA~~ ~~MARKAH~~ German American Address; woman representative
- * ~~WALTER~~ ~~MULLER~~ Secretary of the
German American Emergency Conference
- * ~~ERIC R.~~ ~~SANGER~~
- * ~~WILLIAM~~ ~~VON~~ ~~RUMPF~~
- * ~~ALEX~~ ~~HORMESS~~ Hotel and Club Employees Union,
Local #6, A.F.L.
- * ~~CARL~~ ~~SCHUTT~~ Business agent
- * ~~GUSTAVE~~ ~~FABER~~ Executive Secretary of the Victory Committee and Secretary-Treasurer of the Transport Workers Union.

* These individuals all attended the meeting of the German American Victory Committee March 18, 1944.

The "Hotel and Club Voice" the official publication of the Hotel and Club Employees Union, Local #6, A.F. of L., published a photograph in the March 18, 1944 issue, showing members of Local #6's Russian War Relief Household Kit Committee who raised money to fill 140 kits for Russian families packing them at Union Headquarters to ship across. The individuals appearing in the photograph are as follows:

~~ERNEST~~ ~~ABEGGLEN~~
~~ALEX~~ ~~HARMESS~~
~~WILLIAM~~ ~~PANAS~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~ALFRED GHELIERT~~
~~LOUISE ROBERTSON~~
~~THEODORE ROCKISS~~ - and others.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

A copy of the above mentioned photograph is being retained as an exhibit in this case file. Also being retained as an exhibit is the March, 1944 issue of the "German American", from which the above items are quoted.

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Confidential Informant ☐ on April 11, 1944, ^{(X) u} advised as follows:

"
MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, President of Local 6, Hotel, Club, and Restaurant Employees Union, having been born November 15, 1892 in Munich, Germany, was registered as an alien enemy and possessed AER Identification #4690122. The informant stated that it was his belief that OBERMEIER had failed to list his association with the now defunct Trade Union Unity League, with the Amalgamated Food Workers Union during 1935, with the Industrial Food Workers Union during 1935, and his secret membership in the Communist Party in registering as an alien. The informant stated that he was unable to substantiate the secret membership in the Communist party which he alleged to OBERMEIER, but that he was certain of this membership in his own mind, and, further, believed that OBERMEIER may possess membership in the Communist Party under the name JOHN RAYMOND.

The informant advised that OBERMEIER attended the Lenin Institute in Moscow during 1933 along with ROBERT MINOR and that during his attendance at the institute OBERMEIER stayed with MINOR at the Lux Hotel in Moscow.

The informant advised that despite OBERMEIER's alien enemy status, this individual has recently travelled extensively by his personal automobile without having secured permission of the United States Attorney previous to such travel. According to the informant, OBERMEIER possessed a 1941 four-door Pontiac automobile bearing New York license plates 5Q5703, which plates were issued January 8, 1943.

The informant stated that OBERMEIER plans to proceed to Milwaukee, Wisconsin where he will register at the Schroeder Hotel on April 17, 1944 in order to attend a convention of the Executive Committee of the Hotel, Club, and Restaurant Employees Union. The informant stated that he is certain that OBERMEIER plans to make this trip by his personal automobile and further, that OBERMEIER will not secure permission for such travel.

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Further, in regard to OBERMEIER's background, the informant advised that this individual is presently attempting to gain citizenship with the assistance of Congressman VITO MARCANTONIO, but that citizenship is being withheld temporarily, basis section 226. This section, of possible reference to the United States Code, has not been checked.

The informant further advised that OBERMEIER's wife, GEORGETT, was born in Stausburg, France.

The informant further stated that OBERMEIER had filed declaration of intention for citizenship under date of April 25, 1939 in the Southern District of New York and that he legally entered the United States at New York City from Southampton, England under date of August 4, 1923 aboard the SS NIJW AMSTERDAM.

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Confidential Informant [] advised that the subject is President of Local #6, Hotel and Club Employees Union, A.F. of L., and that the subject has been a member of the Communist Party since the party was founded. He advised that OBERMEIER was once employed in Russia by Intourist, a Russian Travel Agency, in connection with hotel operation methods.

This informant also stated that subject was also a delegate to the Red Trade Union International in Moscow in 1933.

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Confidential Informant [] advised that he overheard a conversation on March 28, 1944 between GIL GREEN, New York State Secretary of the Communist Party, and LOUIS WEINSTOCK, Secretary-Treasurer of District #9, Painters Union, A.F. of L., in which WEINSTOCK informed GREEN that he was sending in the names of [] of New York Hotel Council, A.F. of L.) and MIKE OBERMEIER, endorsing the standard taken by [] at a meeting of the Building Trade in the Bronx. This informant stated that GIL GREEN indicated he was in accord with the action taken by WEINSTOCK in submitting the names of [] and OBERMEIER as endorsing this action. (U)

The records of Local Draft Board #271, 39-40 Bell Boulevard, Flushing, Long Island, New York, reflected that MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, 69-15 178th Street, Flushing, New York, registered for Selective Service on April 26, 1942 and has received no classification because of his age. The records indicated that OBERMEIER was born on November 13, 1892 in Munich, Germany, and his wife's name is given as GEORGETT. His occupation is listed as Hotel and Club Employees Union, Local #6, 701 8th Avenue. He states that he has no children and his duties in the union are as follows:

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"I preside over all union meetings, negotiate contracts and supervise the proper execution of union business."

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At 305 Broadway, New York City, [redacted] an employee of the Downtown Renting Company, agent for this office building, advised that the German American Emergency Conference occupied Room 409 when it was founded. She advised further that KURT ROSENFELD died in the latter part of 1943 and that the present head of that organization is Dr. FELIX BOENHEIM. She added that the organization known as the German American Emergency Conference presently occupies Room 307, along with the publication office of the "German American."

She stated that it is a small office and there are very few people working there. The only two of whom she was sure were two girls whom she saw quite frequently.

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At Room 307 at this address [redacted] was contacted under pretext, at which time she advised that she is the secretary of Dr. FELIX BOENHEIM, the Director of the German American Emergency Conference. She advised that this was also the publication office of the German American, Inc., a publishing company which is affiliated with several organizations, among them the German American Emergency Conference and the Victory Committee of the German American Trade Unionists.

HUDOLPH KATZ, Associate Editor, NEVE VOLES-ZEITUNG, 227 East 84th Street, New York City, a well known social democrat, advised that he has known the subject for many years and considers him, at the very least, to be a fellow traveler and possibly a member of the Communist Party. He stated that it is a well known fact that OBERMEIER, who is very influential in left wing circles, is a consistent follower of the party line and has been for many years. He advised that the subject's union, known as the Hotel and Restaurant employees Union, has a membership of approximately 18,000 and he does not consider it to be Communist controlled because the Communists actually number only a few and although, including OBERMEIER, they hold influential positions, he did not feel they were in a position to control the entire union.

Mr. KATZ further stated that subject is a close friend and associate of FELIX BOENHEIM, the Director of the German American Emergency Conference, and that OBERMEIER is closely affiliated with this organization. He stated that BOENHEIM is one of the leaders of the Communist movement among German Americans in this country. He stated that he has seen the subject with BOENHEIM on several occasions and is of the opinion that OBERMEIER receives his instructions from BOENHEIM, who in turn receives instructions

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from Moscow by way of the Free German Committee in Mexico. Mr. KATZ advised that he felt the reason the Victory Committee of the German American Trade Unionists was set up to begin with, was in order to secure financial assistance for the German American Emergency Conference and at the same time to gain control in certain labor unions.

He advised that he does not consider OBERMEIER to be politically astute although he plays his hand in politics whenever the opportunity presents itself. However, he thought OBERMEIER was a man who had to receive instructions from someone higher up and would never be in any real position of authority.

The records of the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization, 70 Columbus Avenue, New York City, reflect that the subject filed a petition applying for naturalization on April 25, 1939 in the United States District Court, Eastern District of New York, at the time indicating his residence to be 69-15 178th Street, Flushing, New York; petition number 350451. His witnesses were JOHN ASSEL (Assistant Organizer) 5009 Broadway, and HYMAN N. GLICKSTEIN, Attorney, 166 Second Avenue, New York City. Subject stated he was born in Munich, Germany on November 13, 1892 and that his last foreign residence was South Hampton, England. He entered the United States on August 4, 1923 at New York City aboard the ship NEW AMSTERDAM.

In his application OBERMEIER stated that his only absence from the United States since this original entry was from August 11, 1932 until August, 1933.

Subject advised that he married his wife at Strassbourg, France on September 27, 1916.

The records of the Bureau of Criminal Alien Investigation, New York City Police Department, 400 Broome Street, reflect that the subject was a speaker at a meeting on May 25, 1929 at Union Square where the Communist Party and several left wing labor organizations were protesting alleged police brutality.

The records further reflected that the subject's name appeared on a national election ballot of the Trade Union Unity League in December of 1930.

The subject was listed as the chairman of the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists who sponsored the meeting on January 30, 1943 at the Fraternal Clubhouse, 110 West 48th Street, a meeting hall frequently used by the Communist Party.

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The subject was listed as the president of the Hotel and Club employees Union, A.F. of L., Local #6. The subject's name appears on a list of invited guests prepared by the C.I.O. Political Action Committee for a conference held at the Park Central Hotel on January 14th and 15th, 1944. The subject was listed as a speaker at a round table discussion on March 3, 1944, the topic of which discussion was Racism, which was sponsored by the German American Emergency Conference and held at the Turnhalle, Lexington Avenue and East 85th Street.

Subject was further listed as a speaker at a conference sponsored by the Committee for the Protection of the Foreign Born, held at the Hotel Commodore on June 22, 1942.

The records of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York disclosed a report on the subject dated July 12, 1940 indicating that subject was residing at 128 West 61st Street and employed as Secretary-Treasurer of the Hotel and Club Workers Union, Local #6, 701 8th Avenue. This report stated that OBERMEIER had lived at this address in a 7-room apartment prior to 1939 when the present management took over. The report further stated that [redacted] of the Hotel and Club Employees Union, Local #6, A.F. of L., advised subject has been with that organization since its inception in 1937.

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A reference listed by subject was the Amalgamated Bank, Union Square, which reports that the subject has a bank balance in three figures and has had same since August, 1936. A personal reference listed by subject was [redacted]

Following is a description of subject:

Name	MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER
Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	51
Born	November 13 (15th - used interchangeably), 1892
Place	Munich, Germany
Height	5' 10 1/2"
Weight	210 pounds
Hair	Brown (greying)
Eyes	Brown (informant [redacted] indicated he believes OBERMEIER to be losing the sight of this eye)

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Complexion	Ruddy
Marital Status	Married
Wife	GEORGETT
Children	None
Social Security No.	<input type="text"/>

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- P E N D I N G

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- 11 -

NY 100-25590

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

At New York, New York

Will develop confidential sources of information and continue to report the activities of the Victory Committee of the German American Trade Unionists.

Will recontact [Confidential Informant] and obtain any additional information he is able to furnish regarding the Communist activities of the subject.

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CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The confidential informants mentioned in the report of
Special Agent [redacted] dated May 18, 1944 at New York, New York,
are as follows:

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[redacted]

[redacted]

Requested that his identity be kept
confidential.

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[redacted]

Det. [redacted]
New York City Police Department

Requested that his identity
kept confidential.

[redacted]

Letter to the Bureau from the
New York Field Division dated
November 22, 1943 Re: Communist
Party, U.S.A., New York Field
Division; INTERNAL SECURITY - C
(N.Y. file #100-26603-2344)

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[redacted]

~~CONF. INFT.~~

[redacted] whose identity is known to
the Bureau.

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JPG:am
100-96104

CC - SIS European Desk

FGA INFO UNCLASS PER LTR

DTD 6/28/2006

August 28, 1944

~~SECRET~~
AFR COUNCIL
VIA U. S. ARMY AIR TRANSPORT
COMMAND

Mr. A. J. Lynch
Legal Attache
The American Embassy
London, England

DECLASSIFIED BY 60324 AUC BAW/CPB/CAK
ON 09-19-2006

837

VICTORY COMMITTEE OF
GERMAN-AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the letter of Mr. J. A. Clasperman dated at London, England, July 27, 1944, Communication No. 3473, entitled as above.

For your information the Victory Committee of German-American Trade Unionists, which is also known as the German-American Council of Trade Unionists, was formed in New York City on March 1, 1942, as an affiliate of the German-American Emergency Conference for the stated purpose of "educating" German war prisoners along anti-Nazi lines. Since its inception this organization, which is functioning in a manner which is believed sufficient to warrant its designation as a German Communist front organization, has participated in various forms of Russian war relief drives and in types of activities which are commensurate with those of the Communist Party, U.S.A. and its successor, the Communist Political Association.

In addition to the fact that the president of the Committee, Michael John Obermaier, a German enemy alien, is a high ranking functionary of the Communist Political Association, it has been determined that many of the society's members are also closely affiliated with the Communist Political Association. Likewise the evidence at hand reflects that cooperation and unity of purpose exist between the Committee and its affiliate, the German-American Emergency Conference as well as the Communist-inspired Free Germany Movement in Latin America. At the present time the organization is agitating for the establishment of a "worker's government in Germany" following the termination of hostilities.

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In the light of the foregoing and because the Bureau has no relevant information in its possession concerning the London organization mentioned in the letter of reference, it is requested that inquiries be made of the [redacted] for the purpose of determining the nature of the activities of the Allies Inside Germany Council with particular reference to the association of the group with the Victory Committee of German-American Trade Unionists.

Very truly yours,

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
Director

Tolson _____
E. A. Tamm _____
Clegg _____
Coffey _____
Glavin _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____



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DTD 6/28/2006
~~Federal Bureau of Investigation~~
United States Department of Justice

FOR VICTORY
WE WILL
WIN
STAY AS
WAR
BONDS
AND
STAMPS
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IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. _____

American Embassy
London, England
July 27, 1944

DECLASSIFIED BY 60324 AUC BAW/CPB/CAK
ON 09-19-2006

Communication No. 3473
Attention: Liaison Section

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
VIA U.S. ARMY COURIER SERVICE

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

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Re: VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN
AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS
ESPIONAGE-G

Dear Sir:

There is attached hereto for the information of the Bureau
a copy of a Postal and Telegraph Censorship Submission slip which was
made available to me by Lieutenant [redacted]

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Inasmuch as it is not known whether the Bureau has pre-
viously received a copy of this, no request is being made of [redacted]
[redacted] concerning the Allies Inside Germany Council.

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A copy of this submission slip is not being retained in
the files of this office.

Very truly yours,

J. A. CIMPERMAN
Assistant Legal Attaché

ATTACHMENT
JAC:acl

RECORDED

100-961041

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

New York, New York

N. Y. FILE NO. 100-57764 IN

REPORT MADE AT New York, New York	DATE WHEN MADE AUG 2 1944	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 7/24, 25/44	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>
TITLE MICHAEL JOHN CHERNIKER, with aliases: Michael J. Chernier, Mike Chernier			CHARACTER OF CASE Internal Security (C)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

SUMMARY REPORT

KEY FACTS

Subject is registered Alien Enemy; born Munich, Germany, November 13, 1892; entered United States August 4, 1923, and applied for citizenship at New York City, April 25, 1930. Registered at Local Board 271, Flushing, New York and residing with family 69-18 17th Street, Flushing, New York. Subject long active as left-wing leader in New York labor movement and consistent follower of Party line. Is president of Local 6, Hotel and Restaurant Union, AFL, President Victory Committee of German-American Trade Unionists and active in German-American Emergency Conference, both Communist fronts. Subject in 1925 was a member of Executive Board of the Trade Union Educational League under WILLIAM Z. FOSTER, member of Workers' Party in 1922 and reported by reliable informants to be a secret member of the Communist Party, U. S. A., since its inception. Informants state Subject was an international representative of Communist Party from America who once worked in Russia under the Red International of Trade Unions, and laterist, a Russian Travel agency. Subject also reported to have attended LENIN INSTITUTE in Moscow during 1933 with ROBERT MINOR.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60319/AM/DCG/CAK

Reference:

Letter from the Bureau dated April 20, 1942, entitled:

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>E. C. Conroy</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
<p>7. C + 10 COPIES OF THIS REPORT</p> <p>5 Bureau <i>Rec'd. Black</i></p> <p>2 Philadelphia</p> <p>1 Col. S.V. Constant, D. off., 2 S.C.</p> <p>3 New York</p> <p style="text-align: center;">COPY IN FILE</p>		<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">100-96104-12</p>
		<p>RECORDED</p> <p>EX-11</p>

N. Y. 100-57744

"German-American Trade Union Committee; MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER, with aliases; Internal Security (C)".

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Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 18, 1944, at New York, New York, entitled: "Victory Committee of German-American Trade Unionists; MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, with aliases"

Details: Subject is considered a Key Figure in Communist activities in the New York area.

This investigation was predicated upon referenced letter from the Bureau advising that JOSEPH ZACK, in testifying before the Dies Committee on September 30, 1939, stated that MICHAEL OBERMEIER was secretary of Local 6 of the International Alliance of Hotel Workers and Bartenders, and that Subject has been a representative of the Communist Party, U. S. A. since the latter was formed.

Further information furnished to us that MAURICE L. WALKIN in testifying before the Dies Committee on October 13, 1939, stated: "The Food Workers Union, comprising at the present time about 60,000 members in New York, is in the A. F. of L. under the head of the Hotel Trades Council. They have an agreement with hotels in New York. They are led by [redacted] and MIKE OBERMYER. In fact, MIKE OBERMYER is the Communist International Representative for America and goes to Moscow."

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Additional information furnished the Bureau by an unknown outside source was that Subject is one of the leaders of the New York Joint Executive Board of Hotel and Restaurant Workers International Alliance, A. F. of L. and that he was one of the original Communists as well as a charter founder of the Trade Union Unity League.

Subject was reported to have been in attendance at a meeting of the political bureau, POLBURO, of the Communist Party on July 12, 1940, in New York City. Subject was then identified as secretary of the Joint Board of Hotel, Restaurant and Bartenders Unions, A. F. of L., and formerly American Communist Party Representative in Moscow at the Red International of Labor Unions.

The purpose of this report is to set forth information concerning Subject obtained by a comprehensive review of the files in the New York Field Division and previous investigation conducted regarding Subject

N. Y. 100-57744

in connection with the investigation of the Victory Committee of German-American Trade Unionists as a Communist front organization, of which Subject is the alleged president.

Citizenship

The records of the Bureau of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 70 Columbus Avenue, New York, New York reflect that Subject filed his Declaration of Intention for citizenship at the United States District Court, Eastern District of New York, April 25, 1939, stating that he was born in Munich, Germany, November 13, 1892, and that his last foreign residence was Southampton, England.

Subject entered the United States on August 4, 1923, at New York City, aboard the NEW AMSTERDAM. At the time of his application, Subject listed his address as 69-15 178th Street, Flushing, New York. His witnesses were as follows:

JOHN ASSEL,
Labor Organizer
5009 Broadway

HYMAN N. GLICKSTEIN,
Attorney
Second Avenue
New York City

Subject stated that his wife, GEORGETTE, was born in Strasbourg, France. Subject stated that his only absence from the United States since his original entry was from August 11, 1932, until August 1933.

The records of the New York Field Division disclosed that Subject on February 25, 1942, filed an application for a Certificate of Identification as a German Enemy Alien and was given Alien Enemy Registration No. 4690122. At the time Subject stated that he still has a mother, brother, and sister residing in Munich, Germany. He indicated that he had come to the United States thirty years previously and that he was opposed to the National Socialist regime in Germany.

Selective Service

The records of Local Board 271, 39-40 Bell Boulevard, Flushing,

N. Y. 100-57744

New York, reflect that MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, 69-15 178th Street, Flushing, Long Island, New York, registered on April 26, 1942. Subject stated that he was born in Munich, Germany, November 13, 1892. His occupation was listed as president of the Hotel and Club Employees Union, Local 6, 701 Eighth Avenue, New York.

Subject further advised that he was married and has no children. The duties of his office in the Union were as follows:

"I preside over all Union meetings, negotiate contracts and I supervise the proper execution of Union business."

Personal History

In the American labor "Who's Who" published in 1925, it is stated that MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER was an executive member of the International Workers in the Amalgamated Food Industry since 1918. He was a member of the Executive Board of the Trade Union Educational League since 1923. He was a member of the New York Union Labor Council since 1922.

Subject was born November 13, 1892, in Munich, Germany. He attended public school in Bavaria for four years, and a clerical seminary for one year. He has worked in hotels and restaurants in Switzerland, Italy, France, England, South America and the United States.

Subject is author of a publication entitled: "The History of Hotel Workers Union in New York". He was a member of the Workers Party and resided at 71 West 108th Street, New York, New York.

It is noted that the Trade Union Educational League was founded by WILLIAM Z. FOSTER, former president of the Communist Party, U. S. A., and recently elected vice president of the Communist Political Association.

In connection with the dates, it is noted that the dates furnished above indicate Subject was in the United States prior to August 4, 1923, when in his application for citizenship, he stated that he originally entered the United States.

On August 24, 1942, OTTO SCHATZ, editor of the Geneva Association publication, Hotel Industry, advised Special Agent [] that he was well-acquainted with Subject's activities for the past 25 years or more. He stated that Subject came originally from Munich, Germany and

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N. Y. 100-57744

entered this country prior to the First World War, at which time he was active politically as either a Socialist or a member of the International Workers of the World. He stated that Subject was organizer and leader of the Amalgamated Hotel Workers Union in 1918 at the time they had a city-wide strike. He indicated that the Amalgamated Union had been formed in opposition to the A. F. of L. Union organized in the hotel industry.

Subject was active in the Amalgamated Union in organizing bar and speakeasy workers in 1932 and incorporating them in Local 16 of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Alliance and Bartenders International League of America, A. F. of O.

In 1938, Subject was the leading spirit in the formation of the Hotel and Workers Union, which was affiliated with the Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Alliance and Bartenders International League of America.

Mr. SCHATZ advised that Subject has made two trips to Russia. On the first occasion, he was a steward on the S. S. LEVIATHAN, but returned to this country and took his wife and children back to Russia where they lived for several years. While there, he stated Subject worked with the INTOURIST Company in connection with hotel operation methods. Subject, he stated, was supposed to have gone to India and South Africa as a Communist Party Representative. In India, Subject was alleged to have attended or at least to have had some connection with the All India Congress.

In South Africa, Subject was an organizer in Johannesburg and subsequently was either ejected or asked to leave that city. It was not clear to Informant whether Subject was a union organizer or an organizer for the Communist Party while he was in Johannesburg.

Neighborhood Investigation:

[redacted] residing at [redacted]
[redacted] advised Special Agent [redacted] that Subject resided with his wife at 69-15 178th Street and had lived there since about June 1940. She stated that Subject had a daughter, [redacted] who had recently graduated from Hunter College and was presently attending Ames College, Ames, Iowa.

She stated that Subject also has a son who is presently working

N. Y. 100-57744

in a national defense plant in Watervleit, New York. This son has not resided with Subject since the latter moved to his present address.

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[redacted] stated that Subject's wife has a reputation in the neighborhood of being of French nationality. She recalled a conversation with Subject's wife in September 1942 when Mrs. OBERMEIER indicated that she and her daughter had traveled first class to Europe and that it was much cooler in Moscow than it was in New York City. Informant stated that she was not acquainted with the business or other activities of the Subject.

Communist activities

The Dies Committee reports reveal that ROBERT PITCOFF, a former member of the Communist Party, testified to his knowledge, that Subject was a member of the Communist Party.

Confidential Informant [redacted] known to the Bureau, a former member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, on February 18, 1944, was interviewed by Special Agents [redacted]

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[redacted] The following is a verbatim transcript of this interview which pertained to the Subject:

"Q. As far as he (Subject) is concerned, you have related that he was actively working under [redacted] in the Food Workers at the time of the TUUL. Do you know of any of OBERMEIER's history prior to this time?

A. He was active over in Europe in the Communist Party. I don't know just where. He was in Germany, France and Russia, but what other countries, I don't know. He was active in the Party Movement in those countries for quite a long time. He is an old hotel man; speaks German, English and French. He might speak Spanish a little but he is a linguist.

Q. Do you know whether he reported the TUUL Conference in Moscow in 1930 or 1931?

A. It was about that time he was over there. He was in Moscow and Hamburg at the RILU (Red Internationale of Labor Unions). They had a convention I think in Hamburg and he was actively working in that department for quite a long time.

N. Y. 100-57744

"Q. Do you know of any conference he attended in India in behalf of the Party?

A. No.

Q. Do you know about his organising work in South Africa as a representative of the Party?

A. No

Q. Do you know of any official connection with Intourist Agency in Russia?

A. I only know what I have heard. I only knew heresay with respect to it and I don't want to give the heresay. I don't know it to be a fact.

Q. That brings us up to the period 1935. Didn't OBERMEIER go into the Hotel and Restaurant Workers 16?

A. Yes - No - Let's see. Did he go into 16 or 89. Let's see. You see OBERMEIER's union was divided between two groups, 16 and 89. BILL ALBERTSON went in as secretary of Local 16 and they set up a joint organisation committee which had its headquarters on Broadway near 52nd Street. OBERMEIER was one of the organisers in charge of that, once contributing money to be used in an intensive drive to organise New York, and approximately \$50,000 was appropriated to organise the Food workers. OBERMEIER and [] worked together in that organisation committee and as a result of that organisation and drive they began a drive in the hotel. The drive got under way - OBERMEIER was formerly a hotel man, And he formerly worked with the old Amalgamated Food Workers. He became a direct organizer of the hotel. There was a German fellow who was a member of the Party, whose name I can't recall at the moment. His hair is as white as cotton and he is a big fellow, an old man, who works in the office and has been a Party member for a long time. It starts with [] something like that. He is an old hotel chief. They were actively engaged in the organisation of the hotel industry. That was their specific assignment. They were on the payroll on that basis.

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Q. OBERMEIER was one of those directly responsible for the formation of Local 6 along with []

N. Y. 100-57744

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"A. No, I recommended him for that position. He was a member of the uptown local, and they asked me to recommend a negro for that work, and I recommended [] for that job, which he holds now in Local 6.

Q. Right from the start, in other words, Local 6 has been entirely dominated by the Communist Party?

A. That is right. It was organized by them. They controlled every officer with the exception of the section chairman and others who were not members. Practically all the officers from top to bottom are members.

Q. How do you explain the split-away from Local 16? In other words, they have just about the same jurisdiction?

A. There was quite a bit of controversy in the International as to who should have jurisdiction over the hotels in New York. 16 claimed jurisdiction of the hotels after the Hotel and Restaurant Committee began work. Money was appropriated at that time by the International Union for an organizational drive in New York City. They wanted to boost their membership. They were subsidized locally where their possibilities of organizing were good. New York got an appreciable share of the moneys allocated for organizational work. The work got under way and they got entrenched in the hotels in 16 by virtue of the charter which they possessed that they should have jurisdiction of the hotel. While [] and OBERMEIER and other groups were at sword-point with [] and other groups within 16 and the result was that they appealed to the International for a separate charter, the International Executive Board ok'd the granting of a special charter for them at that time despite the protest of 16.

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Q. Was [] on the General Executive Board of the International at that time?

A. No. That was prior to 1938. They became members in 1938. They got their charter, I think, in 1937 or the latter part of 1936.

Q. During the time they were on the Central Committee of the Communist Party, OBERMEIER -

A. (Interrupting) Put National Committee, but they might not be identified properly.

Q. All right. National Committee. OBERMEIER was during this time

N. Y. 100-57744

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*meeting with [] and other members of the Food fraction, right?

A. Yes, that is right.

Q. Did he have any official connection with the Party?

A. OBERMEIER wasn't a member of the National Committee during the time he was a member. He was a member of the Trade Unity Commission of the National Committee but not a National Committee member at that time, and I doubt if he is one now.

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Q. Because of the fact he is inferior to [] and always has been?

A. That is right. He had a lot of foreign connections. For example, with that colored mayor from Sorbonne in Paris, who is now in a German concentration camp, who came to New York. He and OBERMEIER toured the city. They came up to my house at that time. We had a little party - a reception for them because he was a member of the Communist Party in France and I also entertained one of the members of the French Chamber of Deputies prior to Hitler's over-throw of the French Government. I was trying the other day to think of those persons. They were influential members of the Party who knew OBERMEIER in France.

Q. Do you know of any Communist activities on the part of OBERMEIER outside of the Trade Union?

A. That is all he has been active in. All his life in the Trade Union field. He hasn't taken any part otherwise except as a trade union in United Front activities.

Q. Has he been active in the German-American Trade Union Victory Committee?

A. He has and was instrumental in organizing that group because he was interested in getting together German-Americans for political reasons and he has been active because he is German and Jewish and speaks the language and knows the whole procedure.

Q. Do you know whether or not he is a citizen?

A. I don't know.

Q. Do you know anything about the family of OBERMEIER?

A. I was at his house on two or three different occasions. I met his wife and one or two of his children. If I can remember just where

N. Y. 100-57744

"it is - It is below 59th Street, just off Columbus Avenue, but I don't remember the street. We used to have fraction meetings at his house."

Confidential Informant [] known to the Bureau, on June 1, 1944, advised Special Agent [] that Subject has been a member of the Communist Party since sometime in 1920. Prior to 1938, he stated that he frequently saw Subject at the State Communist Party Headquarters and at the Irving Plaza Offices of the Communist Party.

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Subject was a frequent visitor at the office of [] a well-known Communist in New York. Informant stated that Subject stopped attending meetings of the National and State Committees of the Communist Party about 1938 and also stopped visiting Communist headquarters. This was in line with the instructions which the Party gave at that time to all top labor leaders who were members of the Party.

Informant further advised that he saw Subject in Moscow, Russia in 1930 at which time Subject was representing the Trade Union Unity League. He knew of no other Russian trips made by Subject.

Informant further advised that Subject had recently edited a book on the Bartenders' Union which is largely Communist propaganda.

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Confidential Informant [] on April 11, 1944, advised that the Subject is president of Local 6, Hotel, Club and Restaurant Employees Union, A. F. of L. Informant stated that he believed that Subject had failed to list his association with the now defunct Trade Union Unity League, with the Amalgamated Food Workers Union during 1935, with the Industrial Food Workers Union during 1935, and his secret membership in the Communist Party in registering as an enemy alien born in Munich, Germany.

Informant advised that he was unable to substantiate the secret membership in the Communist Party which he alleged to Subject, but he was certain of this in his own mind and further believed that Subject may possess membership in the Party under the name "John Raymond". He stated that Subject attended the Lenin Institute in Moscow during 1933 along with ROBERT MINOR, and that during his attendance at the Institute, Subject stayed with MINOR at the Lux Hotel in Moscow.

Informant further advised, despite Subject's Alien Enemy status, Subject has recently traveled extensively by his personal automobile, without securing the permission of the United States Attorney previous

N. Y. 100-57744

to such travel. According to Informant, Subject possesses a 1941 four-door Pontiac, bearing New York License plates 5Q 5703, which plates were issued January 8, 1943.

Informant further alleged that Subject was presently attempting to gain citizenship with the assistance of Congressman Vita Marcantonio, but that citizenship had been withheld from him up to the present time. He stated that Subject was very anxious to secure citizenship and went to great pains to hide his alien status from other individuals in the labor movement.

RUDOLPH KATZ, associate editor of the publication NEUE VOLKS-ZEITUNG, 227 East 84th Street, New York, New York, a well-known social democrat, advised that he was familiar with the Subject's activities over a long period of time, having known him personally for about the past fifteen years. He stated that at very least Subject was a fellow-traveler, and possibly a secret member of the Communist Party. He indicated that it was well known that Subject, who is very influential in left wing labor movement, is a consistent follower of the Party line and has been since the inception of the Communist Party.

Mr. KATZ advised that Subject is a very close friend and associate of FELIZ BOENHEIM, director of the German-American Emergency Conference, and that Subject is closely affiliated with this organization. He indicated that BOENHEIM is one of the leaders of the Communist movement among the German-Americans in this country and through Subject recently organized a Communist front organization for the purpose of securing funds, which organization is known as the Victory Committee of German-American Trade Unionists, with Subject as its elected president.

Informant advised that he has seen Subject with BOENHEIM on several occasions and is of the opinion that Subject, who is not politically astute, receives his instructions from BOENHEIM, who in turn acts under orders from Moscow by way of the Free German Committee located in Mexico.

Confidential Informant a prominent labor leader in New York City, stated that he has known Subject for at least ten years and considers him to be one of the most dangerous Communists in the United States. He stated that he has good reason to believe Subject is an international representative of the Communist Party in Moscow and works directly under its instructions, independent of the Communist Party, U. S. A. He stated that although Subject's activities probably have been curtailed

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N. Y. 100-57744

somewhat since the start of the present war; that prior to this time, Subject traveled all over the world as a trouble-shooter for the Communist Party. Informant further stated that Subject denies any affiliations with the Communist Party at the present time and defies anyone to prove that he is a member and he is careful to avoid contacts with known Communists or to make any move that would brand him as such.

Although it is generally acknowledged in labor schools that Subject is a prominent Communist even though he does not attend Communist meetings, Informant advised that he has good reason to know that Subject is completely cruel, cold-blooded and absolutely ruthless and will stop at nothing for the good of the Party, and that he is one of the oldest and most consistent followers of the Communist Party line in this country.

Confidential Informant [] stated that Subject is president of Local 6 of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union, A. F. of L., and a member of the local joint executive board of the Hotel and Bartenders Union and the acknowledged leader of the left-wing faction of this board.

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[] stated that [] and that Mrs. OBERMEIER once remarked to his wife that her husband would often leave home without telling her anything about where he was going or when he would be back. She stated that she was always worried when he was gone on these long trips, since it was "Party business".

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Confidential Informant [] advised that Subject has been a member of the Communist Party since the Party was founded, and that Subject was once employed in Russia by Intourist, a Russian Travel Agency, in connection with hotel-operation methods. Informant also stated that Subject was a delegate to the Red Trade Union International held in Moscow, Russia in 1933.

Confidential Informant [] advised that LOUIS WEINSTOCK, secretary-treasurer, District 9, Painters Union, A. F. of L., contacted GILL GREEN, New York, New York, who is State Secretary of the Communist Party, on March 28, 1944, and told GREEN that he was sending in the names of [] and MIKE OBERMEIER, endorsing the stand taken by [] at a meeting of the building trade in the Bronx. GREEN indicated that he was in accord with the action taken by WEINSTOCK in submitting the names of [] and Subject as endorsing this action.

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Confidential Informant [] furnished a copy of a letter signed by Subject, Mr. OBERMIERE, organizer for the workers, Workers' Party of

N. Y. 100-57744

America, dated May 26, 1922, announcing a general meeting of all Workers Party members in the food industry to be held on June 1, at 81 East Tenth Street. (It is noted that this confirms previous information furnished by Informants that Subject was an organizer in the food industry as this letter indicates. The letter is being retained as an exhibit in this case file in the New York Office.)

Subject's name appeared on a national election ballot of the Trade Union Unity League in December 1930. Subject was listed as the chairman of the Victory Committee of the German-American Trade Unionists, who sponsored a meeting on January 30, 1943, at the Fraternal Club House, 100 West 48th Street, New York, New York, a meeting hall frequently used by the Communist Party.

The records of the New York Field Division revealed that Subject was vice chairman in 1942 of the Trade Union Committee in the election of Win-the-War candidates.

On April 17, 1943, he was a guest of honor at the United Nations in America dinner given by the American Committee for the protection of the Foreign Born.

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Information was received from a complainant on November 1, 1943, to the effect that Subject and [redacted] both of Local 6, Hotel Employees Union, made statements to the effect that the operation of the war has been badly mishandled and that at the rate we were going, Germany would surely defeat us if we had to fight on our own. Informant stated that both of the above-listed individuals are anti-American and readily pronounced in their "to hell with America" attitude.

Subject is listed as a member of the advisory board, Japanese-American Committee for Democracy.

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Confidential Informant [redacted] previously listed in this report, on October 8, 1943, advised that ROSE WORTIS of the Communist Party contacted [redacted] of the American Labor Party and [redacted] stated that he would like to get Subject to head his trade committee of the A. L. P. WORTIS advised [redacted] that he should talk to "Mike" and try to get him to take over the assignment.

Subject, listed as president of the Victory Committee, German-American Trade Union Unionists, is listed as a signer of the manifesto issued by the Free German Movement in the United States.

N. Y. 100-57744

Subject spoke at a congress of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Incorporated, at the Hotel New Yorker, New York City, on November 7, 1943, and is reported to have said that the rank and file of the A. F. of L. were for unity with the Soviet Trade Unions, even though the leadership of the A. F. of L. had fought against it. He also praised the Soviet Trade Unions and urged closed cooperation with them.

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Confidential Informant [] known to the Bureau, has furnished reports indicating in his opinion Subject is a Communist and stating that the German-American Trade Union Trade Committee, of which Subject is president, is definitely a Communist front organization.

Subject is listed as a signer of a set of resolutions, supporting the A. F. L. committee to promote unity and cooperation of the United Nations.

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[] on July 31, 1942, reported that Subject is a cohort of [] and made a trip to Moscow in 1936 and does not deny membership in the Communist Party. [] stated that he was a New York City detective when furnishing this information.

MICHAEL OBERMEIER, New York City secretary of the Joint Restaurant Workers Union, A. F. of L., in 1940, is reported by a reliable source to be the former American Communist representative in Moscow at the Red International Labor Union, who was also present at a meeting of a Communistic nature in San Francisco.

The DAILY WORKER dated October 15, 1929, contained a statement to the effect that complete endorsement of the candidates of the program of the Communist Party in the New York mayoralty election was voted at a hotel and cafeteria workers branch of the Amalgamated Workers Union, 133 West 51st Street, New York City. This article stated that the endorsement of the Communist candidates was unanimous. The meeting also endorsed a drive to unionize New York cafeterias.

Subject, organizer of the union, commenting on the endorsement of the Communist program and candidates, said: "We cafeteria workers know who our enemies are, and we also know who our friends are."

The DAILY WORKER dated April 9, 1943, reflects that Subject was a sponsor at a rally held at Madison Square Garden, condemning discrimination against Negroes. Other speakers were JOSEPH CURRAN, National Maritime Union; FERDINAND SMITH, National Maritime Union, and SAUL MILLS, Greater New York Industrial Union Council.

N. Y. 100-57744

The DAILY WORKER dated July 3, 1943, contains a story on 100 officers and business agents of the A. F. of L. who cabled "Heartfelt and Brotherly Greetings" to their SHVERNIK, Head of All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions, Moscow, which was one of the features of a drive sponsored by the DAILY WORKER entitled: "Trip to Russia". One of the names on the list of signers of this cable was M. J. OBERMEIER, Joint Executive Board, Culinary Unions, New York City.

The NEW YORK TIMES dated May 1, 1929, contains an article stating that a motion against SAM KRAMBERG and MIKE OBERMEIER of the Strikers Committee of the Hotel, Restaurant and Cafeteria Workers branch of the Amalgamated Food Workers was presented by NATHANIEL PHILLIPS, counsel for the WILLOW CORPORATION, before Supreme Court Justice AARON J. LEVY. PHILLIPS offered to produce an affidavit that OBERMEIER had at strike meetings made fiery speeches, attacking the American government, praising the Soviet government and calling on strikers to disregard Justice LEVY's injunction.

In the June 16, 1929 issue of the NEW YORK TIMES, an article set forth the fact that Subject and SAM KRAMBERG were cited for contempt of court. The article further stated that picketing of the Willow Cafeterias had been conducted by members of the Needleworkers Industrial Union, the International Labor Defense, and the United Council of Working Women, all organizations affiliated with the Communist movement.

An article dated May 18, 1929, indicated that SAM KRAMBERG and Subject were found guilty of contempt of court and advised disobedience to an injunction issued by the Supreme Court, New York State.

An article dated June 2, 1929, stated that KRAMBERG and Subject had indicated that they would rather go to jail than pay the fine imposed upon them for contempt of court. It is to be noted that SAM KRAMBERG is a known Communist member of the State Committee of the Communist Party and more recently Communist Political Association.

On February 4, 1941, an article appeared in the New York Times indicating that the Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Alliance, A. F. of L., parent body of 14 culinary unions in this city, had suspended all former functions of the Joint Executive Board, and ordered investigation of conflicts between Communist and anti-Communist factions represented on the Board.

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[redacted] of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Alliance, informed the Joint Executive Board that

N. Y. 100-57744

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the International would investigate the situation at the end of the month. During the suspension of work, the Joint Executive Board will be conducted by [redacted] representing the Right Wing Faction, and MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER, representing the alleged Communist or Left Wing. The suspension order is the result of the intensification of the factional fight following the capture of the Board by the Communist Left Wing Faction, and the secession from the Board of six of the fourteen unions. These unions charged that the Board had come under Communist control.

The NEW YORK WORLD TELEGRAM dated May 25, 1944, in a syndicated article by staff writer FREDERICK WOLTMAN, under the caption "Green Puts A. F. L. O. K. on Communist Book", states as follows:

"Despite their abhorrence of Communism, President William Green and Secretary GEORGE MEANY of the American Federation of Labor have put their official blessing on a book written and published by the Communists, who have been trying to capture one of the large AFL internationals, the Hotel and Restaurant Employees' Alliance and Bartenders International League of America". . . . "Its authors are MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER and JAY RUBIN, both long-active Communists in labor circles here.

One complaint voiced by Union officials is that the book presents labor history from a strictly Communist point of view and is intended to solidify the Communist faction in the International. The book was printed privately by the Historical Union Association, Incorporated, set up for the purpose by the Communist group in the International, according to the article.

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The records of Special Squad 1, New York City Police Department, 400 Broome Street, New York City, contained information furnished by [redacted] who under the name of [redacted] who was a leading negro member of the Communist Party, listed SUBJECT as an individual known to him as definitely being a top flight member of the Communist Party. He stated that he based his positive identification on leading members of the Communist Party by saying that he had seen them at secret meetings of the Communist Party where Union leaders and high Communist Party officials were present and no one but ranking Communists would have been admitted.

It is noted that this interview by the New York Police Department was conducted after a series of articles appeared in the NEW YORK WORLD TELEGRAM by FREDERICK WOLTMAN from March 20th to March 24, 1944, containing information furnished by GEORGE HEWITT, alias TIM HOLMES.

N. Y. 100-57744

The records of the Bureau of Criminal Alien Investigation, New York City Police Department, 400 Broome Street, New York, New York, reflected that Subject was a speaker at a meeting on May 25, 1929, in Union Square, where the Communist Party and several left wing labor organizations were protesting against Police brutality in quelling the Communist May Day celebration.

The records of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York disclosed a report on the Subject dated July 12, 1940, indicating that he was residing at 128 West 61st Street, and employed as secretary-treasurer of the Hotel and Club Workers Union, Local 6, 701 Eighth Avenue, New York, New York.

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This report further stated that Subject had lived at this address in a seven-room apartment prior to 1939 when the present management took over. It was stated that a [redacted] bookkeeper at the above mentioned union, advised that Subject has been with that organization since its inception in 1937.

References listed by Subject were as follows:

AMALGAMATED BANK

Union Square

New York, New York

(Subject has a bank balance in three figures and has had since August 1936)

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Description

The following description of the Subject was obtained from various sources:

Name	MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, with aliases Michael J. Obermeier, Mike Obermeier
Born	November 13, 1892 Munich, Germany
Age	51 years
Race	White

N. Y. 100-57744

Sex	Male
Height	5 feet, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches
Weight	210 pounds
Hair	Brown, greying
Eyes	Brown (reported to be losing sight in one eye)
Complexion	Ruddy
Marital Status	Married
Social Security No.	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 138px; height: 28px;"></div>

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P E N D I N G

N. Y. 100-57744

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

At New York, New York:

Will check the records in the United States Attorney's Office, Eastern District of New York, to ascertain if Subject has filed application for travel permits in connection with his status as an alien enemy.

Will continue to follow and report Communist activities of the Subject.

PHILADELPHIA FIELD DIVISION

At Philadelphia, Pennsylvania:

Will ascertain from the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization, the number of trips and duration of said trips to Europe on the part of the Subject.

N. Y. 100-57744

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The Confidential Informants referred to in the report of Special Agent [redacted] made at New York, New York, dated August 2, 1944, are as follows:

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[redacted] confidentially connected with Special Squad 1, New York City Police Department, who was contacted by Special Agent [redacted] on April 11, 1944.

[redacted]
Hotel and Restaurant Employees Alliance and Bartenders International League, A. F. of L., 20 West 42nd Street, New York, who was introduced to the writer by Detective [redacted] mentioned above.

[redacted] is a letter to the Bureau from the New York Field Division dated November 22, 1943, entitled "Communist Party, United States of America; Internal Security (C)" New York File 100-26603-2344

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[redacted] is an original mimeographed letter dated May 26, 1922, obtained by Special Agent [redacted] from a review of old Bureau of Investigation files in the New York Field Division.



**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**



JHB:KW

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. 100-57744

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60309/AUC
TAM/DCG/CAK.

August 1, 1944

En
Ch...
Director, FBI

RE: **MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, was.**
~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)
(Key Figure)

Dear Sir:

It is recommended that a Security Index card be prepared
relative to the individual named below:

Name: **MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER**
Aliases: **Michael J. Obermeier, Mike Obermeier**

Residence Address: **69-15 178th Street**
Flushing, New York

Business Address: **701 Eighth Avenue**
New York, New York

_____ Native Born ☒ Alien _____ Naturalized

☒ Communist *K.F.* _____ German _____ Miscellaneous
_____ Fascist (Italian) _____ Japanese _____

Date of Birth 11/13/92
Place of Birth Munich, Germany
Entered U. S. 8/4/23 at New York, New York
Naturalized (date) _____
Naturalized (place and Court) _____

Very truly yours,

E. E. Conroy
E. E. Conroy
SAC

RECORDED

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60877RUC
FBI/DOJ/CAK UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Office Memorandum

TO :
100-57744

Director, FBI
Attention: F. B. I. Laboratory
SAC, New York

DATE: August 2, 1944

FROM :

SUBJECT:

MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, was. Michael J.
Obermeier, Mike Obermeier
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

m.j. Obermeier

In accordance with Bureau instructions, there are being trans-
mitted herewith two copies of Subject's photograph together with specimens of
his handwriting for inclusion in the National Security File.

Enclosures 3

Michael J. Obermeier - Photographs

3 *ENCLOSURES* attached

NO ANS. NEC. Part of

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TAM/DCG/CAK

100-96104-14

ENCLOSURE

NOTICE

DOCUMENT CANNOT BE SCANNED

DESCRIPTION

NEGATIVES

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DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60309/AUC
TAM/DCG/CAK



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/AUC

By M. J. OBERMEIER
President, Local 8

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100-96104-14

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M. J. Obermeyer

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alb
clky
 (19) (Name)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HERE
 DATE
 TAM/

JOB FOR WHICH YOU ARE BEST FITTED (Describe the kind of work you think you are best fitted to do at present. This may or may not be the same as your present job given above. If none, write "none.")

24. Title of Job for Which You Are Best Fitted: *Administration*
 25. Length of experience at this type of work: Yes, *29* Mos. ...
 Date began: ... Date ended: ...

26. Is this job the same as your present job? ☒ Yes. ☐ No. If "No," fill in item 27.

27. Duties of Job for Which You Are Best Fitted:
 (See instruction 4.)

JOB FOR WHICH YOU ARE NEXT BEST FITTED (Describe the kind of work you think you are next best fitted to do. If none, write "none.")

28. Title of Job for Which You Are Next Best Fitted:
 (See instruction 4.) *Supervise preparing and distribution of Food*
 29. Length of experience at this type of work: Yes, *30* Mos. ...
 Date began: ... Date ended: ...

30. Is this job the same as your present job? ☐ Yes. ☒ No. If "No," fill in item 31.

31. Duties of Job for Which You Are Next Best Fitted:
 (See instruction 4.)

Cooking and Waiters Work

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK**

NY

FILE NO. **100-57744**

eah

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK CITY	DATE WHEN MADE 9/7/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8/13, 14/44	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>
TITLE MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, with aliases			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

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KEY FIGURE

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Confidential Informant [] reports subject was charter member of Central Committee of Communist Party, USA, 1919. Known to have travelled extensively and reported to have appeared in numerous areas where Communist inspired strikes occurring, possibly acting under instructions of the Communist Party.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

- P -

Reference - 2006 BY Report of Special Agent [] dated
TAM/DCG/CAK 8/2/44 at New York City.

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Details:

Confidential Informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, furnished a report dated 11/1/43, pertaining to the Hotel and Club Employees Union, A.F. of L., Local 6, **MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER**, President, [] Secretary-Treasurer. This report stated:

"In the Past, **MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER** has reported that membership in the union is about 15,000, with income derived from monthly dues, with rates at \$2, per month, for skilled workers and \$1.75 per month for non-skilled workers. **OBERMEIER** declined to submit a current financial report. This union is located at 701 8th Avenue, and maintains accounts at the Federation Bank and Trust Company, 34th Street, and the Amalgamated Bank, Union Square."

Confidential Informant [] further furnished a report dated 11/22/32, pertaining to the International Catering Workers Group, Inc., which listed as its President, the subject, **MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER**,

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <div style="text-align: center;"><i>E.E. Jones</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE</div>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="font-size: 2em; text-align: center;">100-96104-15</div>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 1 - Col. S.V. Constant, D. of I., 24SC 3 - New York	RECORDED & INDEXED <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">E</div>

COPY IN FILE

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New York 100-57744

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b7C (German), [] Vice President (Italian), [] Secretary Treasurer (Jewish). This report stated:

"This union maintains offices at 16 West 21st Street, New York City, and has been there since June 1, 1929, prior to that time being located at 133 West 51st Street. This is a New York corporation, operating as a union membership organization, which was founded April 24, 1929. The officers and members are employed as waiters and chefs in various hotels throughout the city."

The following information concerning the subject was supplied by Confidential Informant []

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[] advised that MIKE OBERMEIER was a German Jew, age 50, height 5'10", weight 200 lbs., black hair, grey eyes, with right eye partly closed, and a heavy beard. Informant described OBERMEIER as a "smooth talker", excellent diplomat for the Communist Party, and at the present time financial Secretary-Treasurer of Local 6, Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union, A. F. of L., also Secretary of the local Joint Executive Board of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union and Bartenders International Alliance of America. Informant advised OBERMEIER had recently purchased a home in Jamaica, Long Island, and stated that he was a former waiter and that his activity in the unions of the catering business dated back to 1915. He stated that the subject was chairman of the Strike Committee during the general hotel strike in New York City during 1918.

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Confidential Informant [] advised that about 1932 OBERMEIER was sent to Russia by the Communist Party and stayed there two years. During the time he has lived in the United States, the subject has made several trips abroad as a waiter working on ships, possibly under instructions of the Communist Party. The informant stated that OBERMEIER was in China at the time of the Communist rebellion; in Vienna at the time of the Socialist Rebellion against Chancellor Dollfuss; and that he was in charge of food and lodging for the hunger marchers to Washington, D.C. during President Hoover's administration. Informant [] advised that the subject was in Tampa, Florida during the general strike of the unions there, and prior to that time, the subject was in Pittsburg, Pa., at the time of the steel strike.

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According to Confidential Informant [] OBERMEIER has always worked or acted as a high emissary for the Communist Party, and was on the Central Committee of the first Communist Party of America in 1919. OBERMEIER claims responsibility for the elevation of EARL BROWDER to the General Secretaryship of the Communist Party in the United States.

New York 100-57744

Confidential Informant [] reported a conversation with the subject on October 24, 1940, when he stated OBERMEIER was disturbed over the fact that the New York Supreme Court had removed from the ballot the names of the Communist Party candidates, EARL BROWDER and JAMES FORD.

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On November 10, 1940, [] overheard a conversation between Communist members in the Spanish Branch, 1668 Madison Avenue, in which they discussed the fact that MIKE OBERMEIER, Secretary-Treasurer, Local 6, although not a Party member, contributed financially to the Communist Party and in return received advice and instructions in tactics along the Party line in conducting affairs of his local.

Informant [] submitted a report which pertained to a conversation on August 20, 1940, by [] Stenographer and Receptionist in the Local Joint Executive Board of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees, 11 West 42nd Street, during which conversation she stated that OBERMEIER, who is Secretary of the Board, is a rabid Communist.

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Informant [] reported on November 16, 1940 that [] [] formerly employed by the Local Joint Executive Board as Receptionist, was discharged after it was learned that she was using her position to engage in union espionage, under the orders of OBERMEIER.

Informant [] reported on December 7, 1940 that [] [] had returned [] Informant [] stated that immediately after her return, she had a conference with OBERMEIER and [] both officials of Local 6.

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On December 9, 1940, Informant [] reported that he had ascertained that OBERMEIER was contemplating organizing the World War Veterans of Local 6 into an American Legion Post, anticipating an exposure by the American Legion for his Communist activities.

Informant [] advised on January 1, 1941 that all functions of the Local Joint Executive Board had been suspended, pending an investigation by international officers on charges brought by six locals of the Board that members of the Communist Party had gained control of the Executive Board.

[] Local 1 of the Waiters and Waitresses Union, were named as leaders of the move to oust the Communists from the Board. They also have filed charges with the Central Trades and Labor Council that MICHAEL OBERMEIER of the Local Joint Executive Board is a member of the Communist Party.

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On May 5, 1941, Confidential Informant [] learned that an anti-Communist resolution was adopted at the International Convention held in

New York 100-57744

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Cincinnati, which resolution was aimed particularly at OBERMEIER, [] all of whom are in control of labor organizations in New York City, including the local Joint Executive Board.

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On May 15, 1941, Confidential Informant [] reported that [] Organizer for the Waterfront Section of the Communist Party, and formerly private secretary to OBERMEIER was planning to return to her old position with OBERMEIER.

On February 20, 1942, Confidential Informant [] reported that OBERMEIER and [] signed a letter directed to all New York Congressmen, urging defeat of further appropriations for the Dies Committee.

P E N D I N G

New York 100-57744

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

At New York City:

Will follow and continue to report subject's activities.

Will check the Alien Travel Permit Requests at the Office of the United States Attorney, to ascertain if the subject has filed a request for travel, it being noted that he is a German alien.

New York 100-57744

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Confidential Informant [redacted] mentioned in the report of
Special Agent [redacted], dated 9/7/44 at New York City, is identified as follows:

Detective [redacted] member of the New York City
Police Department, Special Squad 1, [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

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NOT RECORDED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HR:em

September 27, 1944

100-96104

Special Agent in Charge
New York, New York

FOIPA # 1034000

RE: SECURITY MATTER

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that a security index card has been prepared at the Bureau, captioned as follows:

OBERMEIER, MICHAEL JAMES
Alias: Mike Obermeier

ALIEN
(German)

COMMUNIST

69-15 178th Street
Flushing, New York (Res.)

701 8th Avenue
New York, New York (Bus.)

DECLASSIFIED BY 60309/AUC TAM/DCG/CAK
ON 03-21-2006

The above caption should be checked immediately for accuracy against the information contained in your files, and the Bureau should be informed of any discrepancies. You will prepare without delay a 5" x 8" white card captioned as above and reflecting your investigative case file number for filing in your Confidential Security Index Card File. In the event the above caption is not correct, the card you prepare should be correctly captioned, and the Bureau should be informed of the correct caption.

The caption of the card prepared and filed in your Office must be kept current at all times and the Bureau immediately advised of any changes made therein in that connection.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Jones _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

1344 P.M.
27 1944
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60309/AUC
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK, NEW YORK**

FILE NO. **100-28351 HK**

REPORT MADE AT PHILADELPHIA, PA.	DATE WHEN MADE 10-17-44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9-11,30;10-3, 9-44	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 1.2em;"></div>	b6 b7C
TITLE MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, was			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject claims original entry in 1914 and departure in 1923, not verified. Re-entered U.S. on 8-4-23 at port of New York on vessel Nieuw Amsterdam, verified. OBERMEIER departed from U.S. after 6-14-26 and returned 8-21-26. Again departed after 8-3-32 and returned 7-24-33. Travelled in Germany, France and Great Britain to visit relatives and settle an estate.

- RUC -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent dated August 2, 1944 at New York, N.Y.

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DETAILS:

Information Clerk, Central Office, Immigration and Naturalization Service, produced the subject's Alien Registration file #4690122, which contained the following information:

On December 11, 1940, the subject registered as an alien at Jamaica, New York, at which time he stated he entered the United States for the first time on July 23, 1914. On April 27, 1926, OBERMEIER filed application for permit to re-enter the United States, in which he stated he entered the United States on August 23, 1914 on the vessel S.S. St. Louis at the port of New York. However, this information had been crossed out and changed to reflect that he entered the United States on August 4, 1923 at the port of New York on the vessel Nieuw Amsterdam. OBERMEIER stated in this application that he intended to depart temporarily from the United States through the port of New York on or about the 29th day of April, 1926, on the vessel S.S. Caronia,

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>J. F. Nease</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - BUREAU <i>for 10-20-44</i> 3 - NEW YORK (1 - COL. S. V. CONSTAND, D. of I., 2 S.C.) 2 - PHILADELPHIA COPY IN FILE		100-96104-16	RECORDED INDEXED 3
			EX-7

Philadelphia File #100-28351

for the purpose of visiting relatives and to settle an estate. He stated that he intended to travel in Great Britain, Germany and France. On June 14, 1926, the subject was issued a permit to re-enter the United States #165975, on or before the 14th day of June, 1927. Although the date he actually left the country is not given, it was indicated on the permit that he returned to the United States on August 21, 1926 at the port of New York on the vessel Valendan.

In a letter to the Immigration and Naturalization Service dated May 20, 1926, the subject stated he was hired by the United States Consulate at South Hampton, England, as a member of the crew of the vessel St. Louis and discharged in the United States by the United States Shipping Commissioner. He also stated in the same letter that he left the United States to go abroad in 1923 and returned on August 4, 1923 at the port of New York on the vessel Nieuw Amsterdam. There was no information contained in the subject's file to indicate that he entered the United States in 1914 or that he departed from the United States in 1923. The Immigration and Naturalization Office attempted with negative results, to verify the subject's entry in 1914 and his departure in 1923. There was, however, certificate of admission of an alien from the Director of the Port of New York which reflected that OBERMEIER entered the United States on August 4, 1923 at the port of New York on the ship Nieuw Amsterdam, ship manifest #57-1. [redacted] stated that the subject apparently entered the United States in 1914, but since the records kept at that time were very poor, there was no proof that the subject entered the country legally prior to 1923. It was necessary for the Immigration and Naturalization Office to use his legal entry on August 4, 1923 as the basis for issuing him a re-entry permit #165975, June 14, 1926. [redacted] also stated that although OBERMEIER did not need a permit to leave the country in 1923 there would be a visa on file at the Port of New York which he used when he re-entered the United States on August 4, 1923.

On June 16, 1932, subject filed an application for a re-entry permit in which he stated that he intended to depart from the United States at the port of New York on or about July 28, 1932 on the vessel Deutschland, for the purpose of visiting and the settlement of an estate. He indicated on this application that he intended to travel in France and Germany. On August 3, 1932, he was issued a permit #853330 to re-enter the United States on or before August 3, 1933. Although the subject's file did not reflect the exact date he departed from the United States, there was indicated on the re-entry permit that he returned on July 24, 1933 on the vessel S.S. Cripsholm at the port of New York.

OBERMEIER's wife, GEORGETTE, made application for a re-entry permit on September 8, 1932. She stated in this application that she was departing from the United States at New York on October 15, 1932 on the vessel Lafayette, to visit relatives in France and Germany. On September 22, 1932, she was issued a re-entry permit #864160 which entitled her to re-enter the United States on

Philadelphia File #100-28351

or before September 22, 1933. Mrs. OBERMEIER returned to the United States on March 19, 1935 at the port of New York on the vessel S.S. Ile De France. Since her re-entry permit had expired on September 22, 1933, it was necessary for her to enter the country on a visa #209454, in which she stated she resided in Moscow, Russia, from October of 1932 to February of 1935.

Although the subject has filed a declaration of intention and a petition for naturalization, he has not been issued a certificate of naturalization since his case is being reviewed by the Immigration and Naturalization Office.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TBA/fd
100-57744
TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: October 30, 1944

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK

SUBJECT: MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, w.a.
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60309/AUC
TAM/DCG/CAK

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent []
[] dated September 7, 1944 at New York, N. Y. In
that report, it will be noted that a lead has been set
out to check Alien Travel Permit Requests at the Office
of the United States Attorney to ascertain if the subject
has filed a request for travel.

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This lead will not be covered inasmuch as in the report
of [] dated August 2, 1944 at New York
City, Agent [] checked the subject's Alien Enemy
Registration file in this office with negative results.
This file reflects the same information as the file in
the United States Attorney's Office.

This case, therefore, is being placed in a pending inactive status.

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EX-92

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100-96104

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Date: March 22, 1945

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

To: Mr. Frederick B. Lyon
Chief
Division of Foreign Activity Correlation
State Department

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director - Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS

In order to supplement the information previously made available to you concerning the captioned organization, there is attached one copy of the report made in the instant case by Special Agent [] dated at New York City on February 13, 1945.

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As additional relevant data are received concerning the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists, they will be made available to you.

cc - Director, Naval Intelligence
Navy Department

cc - Assistant Chief of Staff
G-2, War Department
ATTENTION: Brigadier General Carter A. Clarke

Enclosure *me*

DECLASSIFIED BY *QRIAG-JC*
ON *2/8/89*
283013

QRI
John

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK, NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. **100-25590 PMC/KOB**

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 2/13/45	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/17, 11/4, 11, 12, 23, 26/44; 1/13/45	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>
TITLE CHANGED: VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS, also known as German American Council of Trade Unionists, German American Trade Union Council, etc.			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C
<div style="display: flex;"> <div style="width: 25%; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; transform: rotate(-90deg); transform-origin: left top; white-space: nowrap;"> ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/8/89 BY SP-AG/TW 283023 </div> <div style="width: 75%; padding: 10px;"> <p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</p> <p>Members, officers and executive board members of subject organization and unions they represent set out. VCGATU supports National Committee for a Free Germany in Moscow. It manifests an interest in German Prisoner of War Camps in US. Minutes of some executive board meetings recounting activities of VCGATU set out. Organization utilizes trade union page in "German American" for its publicity. Incomplete financial data obtained. VCGATU actively supported re-election of Congressman VITO MARCANTONIO and President Roosevelt. Copies of correspondence, some between subject organization and reported Communistically inclined Union leaders, secured. Sponsored one conference of GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS at NYC 6/18/44, claiming attendance of delegates from 73 unions, representing 175,000 German Americans. Other meetings sponsored by subject organization set out. Declared purposes of VCGATU included herein. Informants advise subject organization is Communist controlled.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- P -</p> </div> </div>			
<p>REFERENCE: Bureau File No. 100-96104.</p> <p>Letter from Bureau dated June 12th, 1944 captioned "MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, INTERNAL SECURITY - C". Report of Special Agent [redacted] at New York, New York, dated 5/18/44.</p>			
<p>DETAILS: 2 The title of this case is being marked changed to drop the name of MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER from the title in</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>E.E. [signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		
DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES		RECORDED	
<p>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</p> <p>5 Bureau</p> <p>1 Col. S. V. Constant, Off. 2-86</p> <p>3 New York</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COPIES IN FILE</p>		<p>100-96104-291</p> <p><i>[Large handwritten signature]</i></p>	

NY 100-25590

accordance with the instructions contained in reference letter from the Bureau. It is also changed to add the name GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNION COMMITTEE by which name subject organization is frequently known.

The letterhead of subject organization secured by Confidential Informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reflects that the following individuals are officers and members of the Executive Board of subject organization:

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President, M. J. OBERMEIER, Hotel & Club Employees International Union, Local No. 6, AFL.

Secretary, GUSTAV FABER, Transport Workers Union of Greater New York, CIO

LEO BEISSEL, Butchers Union, Local 174, AFL

JULIUS BERGER, Furriers Joint Council, CIO

HUGO DEWALD, Meat Cutters Union, Local 623, AFL

BLANK HENE, UERMWA, Local 1227, CIO

MAX KLOPPPEL, Bakery & Confectionery Workers, International Union, AFL.

RUDOLPH KOHLER, Bakery & Confectionery Workers Union, Local 1, AFL

DAN RICKERT, Building Maintenance, Local 670, NMU, CIO

FRED SHOPEK, Joint Order of Fur Dressers & Dyers, CIO

EDWARD SCHWUCHOW, Carpenters & Joiners, Local 2090, AFL

Organizational Director, WILLIAM VON KUMPF, UERMWA, Local 1227, CIO.

A copy of a list of Executive Board members of subject organization was obtained by Confidential Informant [] and correspondence with the names listed on the letterhead of their stationery, with the exception that the name [] is also included as a member of the Executive Board.

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Confidential Informant [] also advised that in addition to the above listed names the following individuals were members of the VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS:

[] Local 89, Chefs Union, AFL, []

[] Local 6, Hotel & Restaurant Employees Union, []

[] UERMWA, Local 1227, CIO

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NY 100-25590

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[redacted]
[redacted] Chairman B. A. Victory Committee, Local #1,
BCWIU, [redacted]

[redacted] Bakers Union, Local No. 3

[redacted] Bakers Union, Local No. 17, [redacted]

[redacted] Jewelry Workers Union, Local No. 1, [redacted]

[redacted] Book & Magazine Guild, Local 18, UOPWA, [redacted]

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b7C[redacted] Secretary
New Jersey CIO Political Action Committee

[redacted] Local 89, Chefs Union, AFL

[redacted] Bakers Union, Local 164, [redacted]

Photographic data obtained by Confidential Informant [redacted]
supporting the above have been retained in the New York file.

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Confidential Informant [redacted] obtained a copy of a message
from the VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS of Greater
New York to the National Committee for a Free Germany in Moscow, USSR.
The initial paragraph of this message is as follows:

" On behalf of the Victory Committee of German American Trade
Unionists of Greater New York, we hail the formation of the National
Committee for a Free Germany and welcome your manifesto as a clarion
call for freedom. We are inspired by the unity within your Committee
of approving anti-Fascist leaders, outstanding German Trade Unionists,
and brave German officers and soldiers for the purpose of liberating Ger-
many and all other peoples enslaved by the deadly Hitler regime."

The remainder of this statement, which is quite lengthy, deals
with the recognized duty of the German people to overthrow Hitler. This
copy is being retained in the files of the New York office, for possible
future reference.

In regard to the support of the National Committee for a
Free Germany a copy of the minutes of the Executive Board meeting of
subject organization, dated July 22nd, 1943 was obtained by Confidential
Informant [redacted] and contains the following pertinent information:

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" The Formation of a National Committee for a Free Germany

" The formation of a National Committee for a Free Germany in
the Soviet Union was the first thing to be discussed at the meeting. The

NY100-25590

"whole board agreed that this act is of utmost importance to all German Americans, particularly since it gives a clear and realistic answer to the much discussed question 'What Shall Happen to Germany?'. It was decided that a Committee of Three be authorized to work out a statement which should be given to the press and also be circulated in the widest possible way among German American Trade Unionists."

In compliance with the program of the National Committee for a Free Germany in Moscow a joint statement urging the German people to support the underground movement in Germany was issued by GUSTAV FABER, secretary of the UCGATU and Dr. FELIX BOENHEIM, President of the German-American Emergency Council on July 21st, 1944. This statement is being set out as follows:

" We realize that the long standing differences between a part of the German people and Hitlerites have assumed the character of a revolt against the Hitler Government. As a result of the increasing pressure of the allied forces from the West, South and East—in compliance with the decisions of the Teheran Conference—in Germany's critical hour, the German underground movement has Allies even in the highest ranks of the German Army, to overthrow the Fuehrer and his clique, and fight for the liberation of Germany.

" The next few days will be decisive, not only for Germany but for the whole world. All European partisans will be strengthened through the support of the revolting German Army units and will give assurance that Nazism will be routed in a very short time regardless of any measures the Nazis might take.

" Not even a tremendous massacre among the German people who have been suffering from terror actions for years will halt the overthrow of Hitler and his henchmen. Every step to overthrow the Hitler regime taken jointly by the German Army and the German people will help to shorten the war. Therefore, regardless of the identity of the persons who opened the fighting front against Nazism inside Germany we greet them as Allies of the United Nations. We urge all Germans to join for the liberation of their country and for a speedy termination of the war."

Confidential Informant obtained a copy of a four page printed brochure entitled "Evaluation and Some Proposals Regarding the Situation Among German War Prisoners in the U.S.—Submitted to the Provost Marshal General for Kind Consideration". The title page reflected that this brochure was by GUSTAV FABER, "Secretary Treasurer of the Transport Workers Union of New York and Secretary of the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists". In this brochure, FABER denounces the activities of the Nazi and Gestapo agents among the German Prisoners of War in this country and urged that they be segregated. He further urged the re-education along

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NY 100-25590

democratic lines of those prisoners of war who do not seem to be Nazis, stating that the Geneva Convention did not forbid such practise. He urged that anti-Fascist literature be made available to German prisoners of war in this country. It is believed that these proposals were submitted to the Provost Marshal General by FABER during the campaign of the "German American" to be placed on the approved list of the Provost Marshal General's Office of publications going to the prisoner of war camps.

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Confidential Informant [] obtained a mimeographed copy of minutes of the Executive Board meeting of the subject organization dated July 22nd, 1943 and a photographic copy of the minutes of the Board meeting of March 18th, 1944. They are being set out in view of the fact that they give insight into the activities and plans of the subject organization over a long period of time:

" Report on plans of United Americans of German Descent for a Mass Rally.

Brother Obermeier gave a report about a meeting of the United Americans of German Descent where the possibilities of a huge German American mass rally to be held in fall, were discussed. The meeting was attended by: Otto Sattler, Editor of Solidarity published by the Workmen's Benefit Fund, Mr. Hoffmeister, from the Staats-Zeitung, Dr. E. Seyfahrt, from the United Singing Societies, Dr. Kurt Rosenfeld, publisher of the German American, Dr. Felix Beenheim, Secretary of the German American Emergency Conference and M. J. Obermeier. All those present agreed that such a rally would be desirable. It was decided to publicize the idea in the organizations and to call a broader meeting within two weeks in order to discuss the details.

" A Trade Union Page in the 'German American' and support of the Subscriber Drive

For quite some time the need for some means of publication for the Victory Committee has made itself felt. It was reported at the meeting that the German American had offered to carry a regular Trade Union page provided that the Victory Committee would gather the material. The idea was accepted enthusiastically and Fred Snopek was appointed temporarily editor of this page, and that all German American Trade Unionists be invited to send in articles and notices about their activities.

" It was also decided that one of the activities of the Victory Committee during the next few weeks should be an all out participation in the subscriber drive which the German American is now conducting. It was felt that this paper would have a very good organizing effect among

NY 100-25590

"trade union members and should be read by all for its coverage of the event in Germany as well as for its first stand on home-front matters.

" The signature drive for leaflet to the German workers

" An account of the signatures collected so far in the campaign showed that the results were not quite as good as originally expected. It was felt that the fact that money was collected with the signatures was an obstacle and a suggestion was adopted that signatures should be collected regardless whether the signer wanted to make a donation or not.

" Council meeting beginning of September

" The signature campaign should be wound up at the next council meeting, which is to be held in the beginning of September to discuss the fall activities. Detailed information about this meeting will be mailed to you within the next weeks.

" Actions suggested

" Here are some suggestions as to the activities of your Victory Committee for the next few weeks:

- " 1. Call a meeting to discuss the manifesto of the National Committee for a Free Germany and the manifesto they issued. A speaker can be obtained at the office.
- " 2. Put steam on the drive for subscriptions for the German American. The August issue will carry the full text of the manifesto of the National Committee for a Free Germany.
- " 3. Plan for a showing of the underground exhibit 'Allies Inside Germany' at you union headquarters. This exhibit contains underground material and was prepared by the German American Anti-Nazi Students Committee, who loan it for a small service charge. They will also provide a speaker at request. This is something which is of interest to all trade unionists. Inquire at the Committee, 305 Broadway, Room 409., NYC."

"Council Meeting, Saturday, March 18th, 1944, 2:30 pm, held at
701 - 8th Avenue, Hotel & Club Employees Union Hall

Minutes

"Brother Michael Obermeier presiding.

NY 100-25590

" The meeting was attended by about 35 delegates.

" A representative of the Russian War Relief spoke on the necessity of sending American household kits to help the Russian families which are lacking the most elementary necessities, the everyday things which are sorely needed. A kit was donated from the meeting to the R.W.R.

" The chairman in his introductory remarks stressed the roll of the trade unionist in this war period, of the efforts to win the war, the importance of unity and backing our Commander-in-Chief in his policies both foreign and domestic.

" A delegate from the Polish-American Unions of Newark, Brother Wesch greeted the meeting and said that they were also creating a similar Victory Committee in order to carry out the tasks before the Polish-Americans.

" Mr. Kierschner spoke on the Red Cross, the agency which gives expression of relief the world over, a powerful force of aid to our soldiers. A German-American Red Cross Committee has been formed and he emphasized the fact that contributions through the efforts of the German American Trade Unionists would be a booster for the German Americans. Mr. Romberg will visit the Unions in this respect.

" Brother Faber made his report: The resolutions passed in the previous conference had been taken care of. Definite assurance exists that the London Delegation to the Int. Labor Conference will take up the European Trade Union question. His meeting with General Bryan of the War Department which was arranged for the purpose of taking up the matter of educational work among the German prisoners here in the U.S.A., whosed the necessity of better organization of all German-Americans, which at the present time is rather loose. The representation is only of small committees. The resolution on co-operation with other unions and societies was also followed up. We had also aimed to help all the Germans obtain their citizen papers as there are a great many Germans who never had anything to do with the "Bund" or any other Nazi organization.

" Brother Snopek, Treasurer, urged the delegates to go back to their unions and take up the question of raising funds. He offered some suggestions:

"1- Become a member of the Victory Committee by taking out a membership card for one year at a cost of \$2.00; 2- Give at least one hour for organizational work in your respective Union on behalf of our Victory committee.

" A report was given by Brother Romberg as Activity Director

NY 100-25590

"of the G.A. 'Fourth War Loan Drive'. Two million dollars in bonds were bought. For the Red Cross Drive cans have been distributed to the different Unions, Organizations and in stores and a 'Cabaret Nite' will be held on April 4th at the Mozart Cafe, arranged by the G.A. Victory Committee and part of the proceeds will go to the Red Cross.

" The discussion brought forth many good points; 20 million German Americans must be made to realize that real win the war candidates must be elected in 1944. We must organize around the 'Cairo and Teheran Conference'.

" The delegate from the U.E. Local 1227 spoke of the possibility of raising funds by giving about 10 per cent of the War Chest which is now being discussed by the U.S. Executive.

" The Newark Trade Union Labor Committee is collecting for an ambulance. It was also stated by a delegate that the work amongst the German-American is difficult and may be a slow process, but by far discouraging. The Staats-Zeitung is giving a great deal of space to the German-American Women's rally which will take place on March 31st at the N.Y. Turn Hall. A question was raised, how are we going to reach all the German-Americans as a good many of them have never heard of our Committee as yet and what progress has been made in bringing together all elements of German and German-Americans. A report by a brother on the organization of 'Longchamp' employees was well received.

" Brother Faber summarized:

" The Committee is planning of holding a conference in Yorkville and then a National Conference. A meeting for the 1944 election will be called at the proper time. The results of the meeting with the Hillman Committee were good, as worth while suggestions were obtained for our activity in the German-American field.

" On the question of finances, Brother Faber stressed the point of becoming a member of the Victory Committee by taking out a membership card at a cost of \$2.00 which will also entitle the member to a 6 months subscription of the G.A. Anti-Nazi Paper. He appealed to the delegates to take at least 10 to 15 cards to sell to their brother unionist and friends.

" All effort should be made to organize Victory Committees, even one or two members in a local union, if they have the good will, can achieve this. An example was cited by one of the delegates who succeeded

NY 100-25590

"in getting 20 members active in his Union for this purpose. It can be done.

" The Kits for our Russian Allies, which can be filled at the small cost of \$2.25, should be bought by the Trade Unions as much as possible.

" A meeting of representatives of National Trade Unions will be called in the near future.

" We, as a Trade Union Victory Committee, should be the ones able to bring together all the Germans and German-Americans who want to win the war and who are opposed to Hitler.

" The meeting adjourned at 6 P.M."

When queried about financial matters of subject organization Confidential Informant [] advised that the only information he had concerning this was a copy of a Financial Statement of subject organization dated April 1943. This statement is being set out herein as it is believed typical of the usual expenditures and income of this organization;

FINANCIAL STATEMENT APRIL 1943

"Income:

Stamps	4.75
Collection Lists	101.35
Donation	116.80
Overhead from March '43	<u>52.00</u>

274.90

"Expenses:

Rent, e. light etc.	16.14
Office Expenses	6.25
Salary	<u>92.00</u>

115.47
159.45

" This is not the complete figure, because some postage, calls and telephone installments will appear on the May bill. That sum will amount to about \$5.00."

NY 100-25590

It was noted under income that the money received from Collection Lists was obtained from various unions which supported the subject organization. In this respect Confidential Informant [] furnished the writer with a copy of a letter dated July 15th, 1944 to GUS FABER, Secretary, VOGATE from DICK HENRY on the letterhead of the National Labor War Chest, CIO Section. In this letter was enclosed \$29.08, a reported contribution to the VOGATU of the UERMWA, CIO, Local 1227.

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With respect to the political activities of subject organization Confidential Informant [] stated that they had received copies of a pamphlet entitled "Registration From the CIO Political Action Committee of March 7th, 1944". The PAC it is reported requested a list of the location of branches of subject organization.

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Informant [] procured a copy of a mimeographed letter dated April 27th, 1944 addressed to "Dear Sister or Brother" advising of a meeting called for Monday, May 1st, 1944 at 8 P.M. at the offices of Congressman VITO MARCANTONIO, 1484 Lexington Avenue, New York City. The purpose of this meeting was to enable them to meet the Congressman and to hear what is necessary to insure the re-election of win the war candidates. This letter was signed by GUSTAV FABER, executive secretary and WILLIAM VON RUMPF, the organizational director. This letter is being retained in the New York file.

A letter similarly addressed, dated April 28th, 1944 was sent out by VON RUMPF, stating that the subject organization, being a trade union, was campaigning with the CIO in the re-election of President Roosevelt and stating that they were interested in financing the work of any labor group on a political basis that stands for the election of any win the war candidate. This information was obtained by Confidential Informant []

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Under date of July 19th, 1944 GUSTAV FABER, Dr. FELIX BOENHEIM and MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER sent a mimeographed letter over their signatures addressed to Dear Friend and Acquaintance, for the Re-election of the "Peoples Congressman, Vito Marcantonio". The letter stated:

"Congressman Vito Marcantonio must be re-elected. There can be no other result."

This letter further announced that Wednesday, July 26th had been set aside as "German American Canvassers Day for the Re-Election of Congressman Vito Marcantonio" and urged all German Americans to report to the headquarters of the Americans of German origin Committee for the Re-Election of Congressman Vito Marcantonio, 226 East 86th Street, New York City. With respect to this Committee Confidential Informant []

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NY 100-25590

secured a mimeographed copy of a letter dated July 3rd, 1944 address to "Dear Friend and Brother" by WILLIAM L. VON RUMPF, organizational director of subject organization. This letter is quoted as follows:

" This will inform you of a meeting of Americans of German origin for the purpose of establishing a German American voters committee for the re-election of Congressman Vito Marcantonio. The meeting will be held Monday, July 10th at 8:00 PM at the Marcantonio Headquarters, 226 East 86th Street, New York City.

" Congressman Vito Marcantonio and Michael Quill, also Mr. Gustav Faber, executive secretary of the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists, will address the meeting.

" We urge you to make every effort to attend this meeting.

" List all help to keep 'Labor's Congressman' in Washington."

This letter is being maintained in the file of instant case.

Confidential Informant [] also advised that subject organization, through VON RUMPF as organizational director, is active in the formation and affairs of the Voters for Roosevelt, East Side Community Committee, 1128 Lexington Avenue.

Confidential Informant [] furnished copies of correspondence addressed to subject organization by ABRAM FLAXER, President, State, County & Municipal Workers of America, CIO; MICHAEL J. QUILL, President, Transport Workers Union of America, CIO; FERDINAND C. SMITH, National Secretary of the National Maritime Union of America, CIO; HAROLD J. LANE, International Secretary and Treasurer of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America, CIO; LOUIS MERRILL, President, UOPWA, CIO; and WILLIAM FEINBERG, Secretary, Local 802, Associated Musicians of Greater, New York, AFL, accepting sponsorship of subject organization.

The original photographs of this correspondence are being retained in the file inasmuch as these individuals are not listed publicly as sponsors of this organization.

Confidential Informant [] also secured copies of the following correspondence:

1. Letter dated June 26th, 1944 from LEONARD E. GOLDITCH, executive secretary to the National Committee to Combat Anti-Semitism. In this letter, addressed to VON RUMPF, the writer expressed his thanks for the resolution of subject organization dealing with the fight against

NY 100-25590

against Anti-semitism and states that in the future all press releases and educational matter concerning this matter will be forwarded to them.

2. A letter dated July 7th, 1944 from FERDINAND C. SMITH, National Secretary of the NNU, to subject organization, enclosing a statement on the Danish General strike and its significance in the struggle against Fascism.

3. A letter dated April 27th, 1943 from VICENTE LOMBARDO TOLEDANO, president of the Labor Confederation of Latin America. In this letter TOLEDANO expressed his thanks for material sent by VOGATU. He said he read with great interest and sent under separate cover to them Complete publications from the University of Mexico.

4. A letter dated August 19th, 1943 from CHARLES A. COLLIER JR., executive secretary of the City-Wide Citizens Committee of Harlem thanked OBERMEIER, chairman of the VOGATU for his interest in supporting the measures advocated by the Citizens Committee to prevent any further Harlem disturbances.

5. A letter from JOSEPH BEHMER of the German American League for Equality, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, dated July 30th, 1944. In this letter, addressed to VON RUMPF, BEHMER recounts his activities in organizing the German American Trade Union members in his district and states that he will attempt to arouse interest for VON RUMPF's coming visit to Philadelphia.

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b7D Mimeographed copies of two press releases issued by subject organization and obtained by Confidential Informant [] reflected that subject organization sponsored the first Eastern Conference of German American Trade Unionists on Sunday, June 18th at Manhattan Center in New York City. The purpose of this conference was the all-out activation of all Americans of German origin in the war effort to the complete and final defeat of the Hitler government and to rally support of Americans of German origin behind the conference leadership.

The press release indicated that delegates from Pennsylvania, Connecticut, New Jersey, Upstate New York and New York City representing 73 AFL and CIO unions and farmers organizations were present. This represented some 175,000 Americans of German origin. OBERMEIER presided; FABER made the keynote address. Among those who participated in the discussion were HAROLD PHILLIPS, president of the Berks County Farmers Cooperative, who told of the end of political action among the German American farmers in Pennsylvania; ROBERT SCHRANK, president of Lodge 402, IAN, who

NY 100-25590

urged the setting up of a political machine to work among the Americans of German origin for the re-election of Roosevelt; ERNEST KOPPEL of the South Jersey CIO and JOSEPH BEHMER of Philadelphia, who called upon the conference to set up organizing committees in various German American communities in the East. The conference passed a resolution calling for the continued leadership of President Roosevelt and the support of all win the war candidates for re-election. A resolution calling for the abolishment of Jim Crow and anti-semitism was passed. A resolution calling on the German people to take organized action against the Hitlerites in support of the liberating armies of the United Nations was also passed.

This conference laid plans for the organization of the German American Voters Committee to be set up throughout the East.

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From Confidential Informant [] it was learned that the VCGATU sponsored the following meetings during the past year and a half:

On May 7th, 1944 they sponsored a "Family Night" at the Rhineland Restaurant, 228 East 86th Street, New York City, the proceeds of which were to go to the "German American", an anti-Nazi newspaper.

On Tuesday, April 25th, 1944 the German American Victory Committee of Local No. 1, BCWIU, held a meeting at the Union Headquarters, urging participation in the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists. At this meeting ALBERT SCHREINER of the "German American" spoke on the topic, "What Can the German Americans Do to Help the Germany of Tomorrow?".

On April 22nd, 1944 the VCGATU held a European Council meeting at the Conference Room of the Hotel & Club Employees Union, Local 6, New York City. It was held as the first get together and reception of trade unionists and fraternal groups of European origin. The declared purpose of this meeting was to have an inter-change of ideas to cement unity and to work out a campaign program to solve the specific small problems of the nationality groups and rallying these groups more completely around the war effort to an early defeat of Hitler, Fascism and Japanese Imperialism.

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According to information received from Confidential Informant [] representatives of fifteen European origin groups attended, including the Free French War Veterans, Norwegian Seamen's Union, and the Negro Labor Committee. At this meeting MICHAEL POSMAN, secretary of the Greek Labor Committee was elected temporary chairman. GUSTAV FABER made the keynote address, stressing the importance of the American Trade Unions in the re-establishment of the European Trade Unions. FRANK WEDL, chair-

NY 100-25590

man of the Austrian Labor Committee discussed the work of their committee in having separate prison camps for Austrian prisoners of war in the United States of America.

STEVE KROLL, Executive Secretary of the American Slav Congress told of the need for acquainting and activating the foreign groups on the problems our country is now facing.

The meeting voted to send resolutions to the International Labor Conference now meeting in Philadelphia and the World Youth Labor Conference called in June. A professional committee was elected to draw up the resolutions and to work out plans for setting up a permanent body.

Confidential Informant [] advised that the VCGATU held a working conference on December 18th, 1943. At this meeting OBERMEIER presided and outlined the tasks of the Victory Committee and told of the success of the Third Labor Conference of German Americans held on November 20th, 1943. The central theme of this conference was the need for unity among the German Americans, in the United States and the methods of achieving it. This was discussed by OSCAR BLANK, delegate from the NEU; EDDIE BLOHM, National Office, Workmen's Benefit Fund; BIANKA HENE, UMW, Local 1227; JOSEPH REICHL, the Waiters' Union Local #1; FRED SNOPEK, Joint Board of Fur Dressers & Dyers; ELSIE JANSEN, UOPWA 16; EMIL ROMBERG, Electrical Workers Union, Local 3, AFL; and A. KAHN, Industrial Insurance Agents, Local 30, CIO.

The consensus of the discussion was that the work of the subject organization should be stressed in the unions and that a council should be formed on which the various European Nations would be represented. The purpose of this council would be the rebuilding of democratic trade unions in Europe.

Confidential Informant [] advised that a Third Labor Conference of German Americans was held Saturday, November 20th, 1943 at the Transport Workers Union, 153 West 64th Street, New York City. At this conference VICTOR F. HITTER, publisher of the "State-Herald"; Councilman Rev. ADAM CLAYTON POWELL; MAX KLOEPPEL, International Representative of the BOWUI and GUSTAV FABER were scheduled speakers. The subject organization claimed that 140 elected delegates from trade unions, 24 fraternal delegates and 16 observers attended this conference, representing 34 AFL unions; 24 AFL shops; 10 CIO shops, and 10 fraternal organizations.

NY 100-25590

At this conference a resolution on the world political situation was passed, the essence of which renounced the compulsion under which the workers of Europe were laboring for Hitler, calling upon them to revolt against Nazis, pledging the support of the German American Trade Unionists in the fight of the German workers against Hitler. A resolution for the unification of all German Americans was passed, which called on all German Americans in the United States to rally behind the win the war policies of the administration and anti-Nazi activities carried on by the German Americans in this country.

A resolution urging that democratic literature be sent to German war prisoners and a resolution in support of the "German American" the newspaper, were also adopted at this conference.

This conference was endorsed by Mayor LA GUARDIA, WENDELL WILKIE and many CIO and AFL union leaders.

In a News Letter issued by the VCGATU, on the occasion of the Eastern Conference of German American Trade Unionists, June 18th, 1944 subject organization reported the purposes of its formation in an article entitled "What Is the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists?" In view of the fact that this article gives good historical data concerning the formation of subject organization and its declared purposes, it is being set out herein verbatim:

" The Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists, (both the CIO and AFL) is an organization of American Trade Unionists of German origin. It was organized in the early part of 1942, under the leadership of Michael J. Obermeier, Pres. of the Hotel & club employees Union, Local 6, AFL and Gustav Faber, Sec'y.-Treas. of the Transport Workers Union, CIO, together with such outstanding trade union leaders as, Max Kloppel and Rudolph Kohler of the Bakers, Fred Snopek, of the Furriers and many others.

" The purpose of the Committee is to establish unity and co-operation among the German Americans, for a complete Victory of the United Nations; to expose and combat Nazism wherever it is found; to promote greater understanding between loyal German Americans and their fellow Americans; to conduct an educational campaign for democracy and against fascism; to give aid and encouragement to German anti-fascists in their struggle against Hitler. Thus through unity of purpose, and unity of action, will Victory be realized and the complete fulfillment of the Moscow and Teheran conferences.

" The committee has held three very successful Labor Conferences

NY 100-25590

"of the New York area. It has done much to promote unity in the German American groups, it has been outstanding in the war effort, it is the leader in fight against any discrimination of the American peoples, it's most recent success was in getting the government to lift the ban on the "GERMAN AMERICAN" an anti-Nazi newspaper and allow it to be circulated to the German prisoners of war in this country. This is a major step towards the re-education of the German prisoners in the ways of democracy."

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent

[REDACTED]

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FRITZ STRASSNER, Chairman of the German American Committee, Local 89, Chefs Union, AFL, an employee at Manny Wolf's restaurant, 49th Street and Third Avenue, New York City, was contacted, inasmuch as he had been reported to the writer as being active in subject organization despite his anti-Communist sympathies.

STRASSNER advised that the German American Committee in Local 89 had been invited by subject organization to join with them and, at the request of Local 89, he and other officers of their committee had attended several meetings of the GERMAN AMERICAN VICTORY COMMITTEE, of which MIKE OBERMEIER is President. After attending these meetings and giving the matter due consideration, however, his committee had voted not to affiliate with the subject organization. He stated that their reason in taking this action was based upon a firm belief that OBERMEIER, RUDOLPH KOHLER and FRED SNOPEK, officers in the organization, were all Communists and that the organization itself was intended not to act as a patriotic German-American organization but to further the interests of the Communist Party among German Americans in Labor unions in New York City.

Concerning his own committee, STRASSNER advised that the German American Committee in Local 89 had a relatively small membership, consisting of approximately fifteen members of Local 89, and the purpose of their organization was not to further any foreign or unpatriotic activities but formed purely for the purpose of sponsoring activities among themselves in which they were mutually interested, usually social benefits the proceeds of which were donated to recognized charities.

STRASSNER further advised that his committee considered OBERMEIER to be the moving force behind this organization, which was, in turn sponsored by the German American Emergency Conference.

At the meetings he attended, he stated, he was impressed by the fact that OBERMEIER, although seldom taking the stand to voice his own

NY 100-25590

opinions publicly, nevertheless, made it a practice to talk to each of those attending, personally, and impress upon them the importance of the organization and his own part in it, and in this way wielded a great deal of influence among those attending.

The attendance at these meetings, he stated, seldom numbered more than twenty five persons, and this, he stated, was one of his committee's reasons in refusing to join with the subject organization. He advised OBERMEIER, he said, that his committee would be interested only in joining with a movement which operated as its membership rank and file members of other labor unions, not merely the officers in these unions, which appeared to be the membership of this organization.

He stated, that although he continued to receive literature from the GERMAN AMERICAN VICTORY COMMITTEE OF TRADE UNIONISTS, inviting him and members of his committee to attend their meetings, his committee was unanimously opposed to any further participation, and he doubted that they would be further approached in a formal manner, inasmuch as they have all gone on record as being opposed because of the Communistic element involved.

The activities of subject organization were discussed with Confidential Informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, who advised that lately they had curtailed their activities to a large extent. He said a great deal of their efforts were devoted to the re-election of Roosevelt and since that time they had not been very active in the trade union field. He stated that they held an Executive Board meeting on December 18th, 1944 and that he was unable to obtain an invitation to this meeting. He has advised that he will make attempts to ascertain the nature of the business transacted at this time and report same.

Confidential Informant [] said that the representative on the VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS of Local 6, Hotel & Restaurant Employees Union, was now [] whom informant regards as being Communistically inclined. He stated that MICHAEL OBERMEIER, President of Local 6 and also of subject organization, is an out and out Communist and is well known as such.

He further advised that [] business manager of Local No. 6, who is also a representative from that Union on the VCGATU and who was also believed to be a Communist, had moved to California and was now employed by the North American Aviation Plant in Burbank, California.

P E N D I N G

NY 100-25590

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

At New York, New York

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Will contact Detective [redacted] New York City Police Department for any information in his possession concerning the subject organization.

Will recontact FRITZ STRASSNER, Chairman of the German American Committee, Local 89, Chefs Union, for any further information in his possession concerning this organization.

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Will follow and report the activities of subject organization through Confidential Informant [redacted] and through other confidential sources.

NY 100-25590

Confidential Informant

b2 The confidential informant referred to in the report of
b6 Special Agent [redacted] dated February 13th, 1945 at New York, New
b7C York is as follows:
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[redacted] A highly confidential and reliable source who had
access to the office of subject organization, 305
Broadway, [redacted]

b6 This source is known to Special Agents [redacted]
b7C [redacted] and the writer.

RWB:HEB

The Commissioner
Immigration and Naturalization Service
John Edgar Hoover, Director - Federal Bureau of Investigation

February 10, 1945

MICHAEL OBERMEIER, MEMBER OF TRADE UNION UNITY LEAGUE AND
THE AMERICAN TRADE UNION.

100 96104 21

EX-58

Your memorandum of January 17, 1945, requested all information in the possession of this Bureau concerning Michael Obermeier and the above named organizations.

There are enclosed two copies of each of the following investigative reports which relate to Michael Obermeier:

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Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated August 2, 1944, at New York, New York, entitled "Michael John Obermeier, was.; Internal Security - C."

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated September 7, 1944, at New York City, entitled "Michael John Obermeier, was.; Internal Security - C."

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Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 17, 1944, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, entitled "Michael John Obermeier, was.; Internal Security - C."

There are also enclosed two copies of a four page summary of information relating to the Trade Union Unity League which existed from 1929 to 1935 when it was officially dissolved.

As for the American Trade Union, about which you inquired, this Bureau's files contain no information which can be identified with an organization by that name. It is pointed out that Michael Obermeier has been a member of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union of the American Federation of Labor which is an American trade union and it is also noted that he was active in the German-American Trade Union Committee. Information concerning the latter organization has previously been furnished to you and his relationship with the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union is referred to in the reports which are enclosed.

Enclosures

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-18-79 BY SP3 TAC/bce

ENCLOSURE

100-96104-21

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

56214/328, 56214/329

A-4690122 Inf. *h*

DATE: January 17, 1945

TO : J. Edgar Hoover, Director,
 FROM : Perry M. Oliver, Director of Administrative Services
 SUBJECT: Immigration and Naturalization Service, Central Office
 Michael Ubermeier, member of Trade Union Unity League and the American Trade Union

This Service is considering the eligibility of the above-named petitioner for naturalization. It is requested that all information you may have concerning him and the above-named organizations, be furnished us in duplicate.

The following data is submitted to assist you in this regard: The petitioner, a resident of 69-15 178 Street, Flushing, New York, was born on November 13, 1892 in Munich, Germany; was married on September 27, 1916 at New York, New York, to one Georgatta, French born; the two children of this union, [redacted] are United States citizens by birth. The subject, who claims the occupational status of waiter, emigrated to the United States from England, arriving at the port of New York on August 4, 1923 via SS Nieuw Amsterdam.

It is alleged that the subject was one of the original Communists in the United States and a leader in the American Trade Union which is supposedly controlled by the Communists. He is a charter member and founder of the Trade Union Unity League. Testimony was given before the Dies Committee that the subject was a representative of the Communist Party of this country; that he has been identified as a former representative of the American Communist Party at Moscow at the Red International Labor Union conferences; that he was identified as one of the Communists who attended the German American Emergency Conference. He is President of Local #10 of the New York Hotel Trades Council and spoke over the shortwave radio for the Victory Committee of the German American Trade Union.

It has been further alleged that the subject sent members of the Young Communist League to wreck nine union cafeterias because they refused to sign contracts with his union. He has made two trips to Russia, first as a steward on the SS Leviathan, and on the second trip he took his wife and child and they lived in Russia for several years. He was, at one time, considered an active Socialist and member of the International Workers World.

Your New York File #100-25590 relates.

Perry M. Oliver

CHD:mr
Re Ford

February 9, 1945

THE TRADE UNION UNITY LEAGUE - *Re Ford*

The Trade Union Unity League resulted from the reorganization of the Trade Union Educational League, accomplished at the latter's Fourth National Convention held at Cleveland, Ohio, August 31 to September 1, 1929. The general aims of the Trade Union Unity League (TUUL) were identical with those of the Trade Union Educational League, an organization which had functioned since 1920 as the industrial arm of the Communist Party of America.

One of the outstanding policies of the TUUL was the organization of unaffiliated workers into unions independent of the American Federation of Labor. This policy was expressed in the program adopted at the 1929 Cleveland Convention as follows:

"The Trade Union Unity League aggressively furthers the organization of new revolutionary industrial unions in industries where there are no unions and in industries where the existing unions are corrupt and impotent. The organization of the masses into new unions stands in the very center of the T.U.U.L. program. But this does not imply a policy of petty splits and individual withdrawal of militant workers from the old trade unions where these have a mass character. Such a policy was one of the many serious mistakes of the I.W.W.

"On the contrary, the T.U.U.L. organizes the left wing in these old unions and fights for their revolutionization. The skilled workers also feel the pressure of rationalization. Discontented masses in the various unions look upon their official leaders with hatred and contempt as betrayers. They only require the occasion and effective leadership to develop serious struggles against the officialdom and employers. The T.U.U.L. fights in the old unions for their amalgamation through direct action of the masses against their leaders. It fights for a militant wage and strike policy in these organizations, and sets up rank and file strike committees against the official machinery of the bureaucrats. It struggles to break the alliance of the old unions with the capitalist parties and to draw them into working-class political struggles. It fights to rouse the organized masses for the defense of the Soviet Union and generally

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

COPIES DESTROYED *5/1/56*

EX - 66

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&
INDEXED

100-96104-21	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
FEB 19 1945	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-18-74 BY SP3 Tef/Bce

against impending imperialist war. It carries on a merciless struggle to eliminate the reactionary leaders from control of these unions and to defeat their program of class collaboration. It battles to wipe out the discrimination against Negro workers in the industries and in the unions. It struggles to draw the old organizations into closer relations, organizationally and ideologically, with the industrial union movement, against the unionism of the labor bureaucrats. The new union movement militantly battles for class, industrial unionism, both outside and inside the old unions."

The TUUL was headed by a National Committee which elected a National Executive Board and had the following officers at the outset of its existence: William Z. Foster, General Secretary; John Schindler, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer; J. W. (Jack) Johnstone, National Organizer; J. W. Ford, National Negro Organizer; W. F. Dunne, Editor of "Labor Unity", official organ of the TUUL. All of these National Officers of the TUUL were members of the Communist Party and in most instances Executive Board members were members of the Central Committee of the Communist Party.

The Trade Union Unity League, like its predecessor, functioned as the American section of the Red International Labor Unions, and like other creations of the Comintern, aimed at "mobilization of the working class for the revolutionary overthrow of the capitalist system." The literature of the TUUL was supervised and edited by the General Committee of the Communist Party, U. S. A. In the final analysis the Central Committee of the Communist Party dominated all activities of the TUUL which had the same relationship to the Communist Party in this country as the RILU had to the Comintern and which served as the specialized organization of the Communist Party, U.S.A. in the American trade union field.

During the years of industrial crisis in the early 1930's, industrial unions were formed by the TUUL in the needle trades, including the furriers and the dress makers, in mining, marine, textiles, steel and metal, automobile, food, packinghouse, shoe and leather, furniture, agriculture, office, fishermen and cannery and lumber industries.

In the middle of 1934 the TUUL reached its peak membership of about 125,000. Approximate figures for the membership of the various TUUL unions at their maximum strength are as follows:

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

Needle trades - 25,000
Steel and metal workers - 21,000
Agricultural workers - 20,000
Miners - 10,000
Food workers - 10,000

Shoe workers - 9,000
 Furniture workers - 8,000
 Marine workers - 7,000
 Textile workers - 7,000
 Auto workers - 5,000
 Lumber workers - 3,500
 Fishermen - 2,000
 Tobacco workers - 1,400
 Miscellaneous locals - 10,000

(From Bryan to Stalin,
page 257 et seq. by
Wm. Z. Foster)

The period during which the TUUL existed was characterized by a great number of strikes conducted by organized workers in American industry. The TUUL was responsible for many of the strikes as was boasted by Earl Browder in an article prepared for the September, 1939 "Communist" on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the Communist Party, U.S.A. Browder wrote as follows:

"From 1929 to 1933, despite the passivity of the official labor movement, strikes and organizing movements broke out more and more among the employed industrial workers. With the labor officials ignoring or sabotaging these movements, it was inevitable that independent unions should arise. These efforts were fully supported by the Communist Party, which used its influence to unite their forces in the Trade Union Unity League, established at a conference in Cleveland in 1932. The unions affiliated with this center conducted a very high proportion of all strikes of this period, trained a large number of trade union organizers, and established some stable organizations."

In March, 1935, the organization's dissolution was accomplished at a convention in New York City. The reasons for the dissolution of the TUUL have been stated by William Z. Foster as follows:

"In short, the entry of the 1,000,000 workers into the A. F. of L. in 1933-35 at least partly removed many of the glaring evils that had been the original cause of the independent union policy of the T. U. U. L. These new militant masses had largely broken down the disastrous A. F. of L. no-strike policy; they had weakened the leaders' autocratic control and reduced the expulsion evil; they had established at least a trace of trade union democracy, and they had even caused a breath of progress to blow among the leadership. Under such circumstances the place for all revolutionary workers was in the A. F. of L. to give leadership to these awakening masses. In the earlier stages of the struggle the T. U. U. L. unions, justified by objective and subjective conditions, had played a positive, revolutionary role, in their independent

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Egan _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Pennington _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Gandy _____

status, but now, by the alteration fundamentally of those conditions, such an independent status was no longer necessary. It was in realization of this fact that the T. U. U. L. proceeded to merge its unions into the A. F. of L."

(From Bryan to Stalin
pgs. 271-272, by Wm. Z. Foster)

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director - F.B.I.

DATE: April 10, 1945

FROM : SAC - Philadelphia

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT: GERMAN-AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS
INTERNAL SECURITY - CDATE 03-21-2006 BY 60389/AUC/8
TAM/DCG/CAK

Special Employee [redacted] of this office, recently noted an article in the April 1, 1945, issue of the "German American", which indicated that an Eastern Conference of German-American Trade Unionists would be held in the Free World House, 144 Bleecker Street, New York City on Sunday, April 15th at 2:00 P.M. The admission will be 50 cents. The article indicated that the main task of this conference will be to organize support for the decisions of the Yalta Conference among German Americans.

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[redacted] thought the following excerpt from the announcement in the "German American" is of interest:

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"Mr. James McMullen, writer and lecturer who attended the Dumbarton Oaks Conference will discuss the problems of International Cooperation and the part all sections of the American public can play in their support.

"Other guest speakers will be Mr. Leo Kryzcki, Chairman of the American Polish Labor Committee and Mr. S. L. M. Barlow, noted composer and musician and world traveler.

"Already a great number of organizations sent credentials their delegates. Among the labor leaders who endorsed the Conference are Joseph Curran, President of the National Maritime Union, Secretary of the Greater New York CIO Council and Mr. [redacted], Mr. Saul [redacted], President of the Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers Union of America."

The New York Field Division is being advised of the above meeting for whatever attention they desire to give to it.

AGW:HK
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c.c. New York

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100-96104 22

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EX-8

DECLASSIFIED BY 60309/AUC TBY/SPECIAL AGENTS
ON 03-21-2006

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Date: August 6, 1945

To: Mr. Frederick B. Lyon
Chief
Division of Foreign Activity Correlation
State Department
Washington, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS,
also known as German American Council of Trade Unionists,
German American Trade Union Committee

For your further information and assistance in connection with
the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists, I am enclosing
a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 3, 1945, at
New York, New York.

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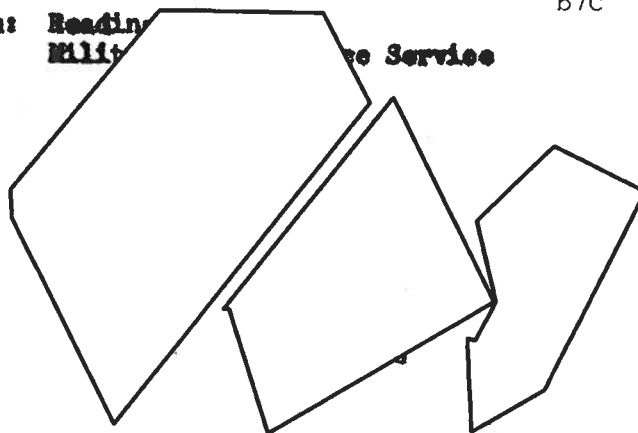
Enclosure

CC: Director of Naval Intelligence - Enclosure
Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

CC: Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2 - Enclosure
War Department
Washington, D. C.

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Attention: Reading
Military Service



Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK, N. Y.

ADDITIONAL INDEXING

NY FILE NO. 100-25534

CM

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK, N. Y.	DATE WHEN MADE 5/3/45	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/12, 15, 19, 20, 24, 28, 30; 4/5, 17, 18, 21, 24, 25/45.	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>
TITLE VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS, also known as German American Council of Trade Unionists, German American Trade Union Committee.			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

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SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

LEO BEISSEL recently elected Treasurer to succeed FRED SNOPEK. Subject organization moved 2/45 to 1128 Lexington Avenue, NYC and shares office space with several other reported Communist front organizations. VCGATU exists chiefly to support Provisional National Committee of German Americans, newly formed roof organization in the German American Field. Also supports Committee for Re-education of German Soldiers and the "German American, Inc." newspaper, its official publication. VCGATU held second annual conference of German American Trade Unionists 4/15/45 at NYC. Adopted resolution in favor of German slave labor rebuilding Russia.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60309/AUC

- P -

REFERENCE:

Bureau File No. 100-96104:
Report of Special Agent dated February 13, 1945
at New York, New York.

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DETAILS:

Confidential Informant whose identity is known to the Bureau, secured a copy of the new letterhead of subject organization which reflected that LEO BEISSEL was the new Treasurer succeeding FRED SNOPEK. This informant also was present in the offices of the VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS when WILLIAM VON FRUMPF, Organizational Director, was explaining to BEISSEL the various phases of the bookkeeping system and other monetary matters concerning the organization. This occurred on April 23, 1945.

For the information of the Bureau, the indices of the New York Field Division reflect that is a member of the 16th Assembly District Club of the Communist Political Association, along with his wife

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>E.E. Conroy</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">100-96104-23</div>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 1 - Col. S.V. Constant, D. of I., 2 S.C. 3 - New York	<div style="float: right; text-align: right;"> RECORDED INDEXED EX-28 </div> <div style="clear: both;"></div>

NY 100-25590

Confidential Informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, has reported that [] are very active in the affairs of this club. [] and GUSTAVE FARER, secretary of the VCGATU are the most active officials of this organization and perform a major part of the administrative work.

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Confidential Informant [] advised that the subject organization moved from 305 Broadway, Room 207, to 1128 Lexington Avenue, New York City in February of 1945. This informant advises that the Provisional National Committee of German Americans is also located in this office, and that the affairs of this latter organization are apparently conducted by the same individuals who are officials of the VCGATU. Informant advises that the adjoining office is occupied by the Committee for the Care of Young Children in Wartime, the Mid-town Manhattan Committee for Citizens Action, and the Greater New York Citizens Action Committee.

A review of the indices of the New York Field Division reflects that the Committee for the Care of Young Children in Wartime and the Greater New York Citizens Action Committee are subjects of a pending investigation. The chief figure in both of these organizations is [] also known as [] who has long documented record of affiliation with Communist front organizations.

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[] stated that a [] is the Secretary of the Greater New York Citizens Action Committee and works full time in this office for this organization and for the Committee for the Care of Young Children in Wartime. [] also assists VON RUMPF by performing stenographic and mailing work for him. One telephone, RHineland 4-3372, suffices for all of these organizations at 1128 Lexington Avenue.

Confidential Informant [] advised that informant was told by [] that the VCGATU exists chiefly to further the Provisional National Committee of German Americans, which is in the process of formation at the present time. [] stated further that the German American Emergency Conference was no longer important and could be forgotten. It was the informant's opinion that the new Provisional Committee will supplant the German American Emergency Conference and all other German American top organizations as the chief roof organization in the German American field.

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From a review of several issues of the publication "German American, Inc." it was learned that the Provisional National Committee is being organized on the framework of the National Independent Committee for the Re-election

NY 100-25590

of President Roosevelt. The latter committee was created largely through the efforts of the VCGATU. The purpose of the Provisional Committee is to unify the thought and activities of German Americans behind the Yalta Conference and other international peace agreements entered into by the Big Three. It is also the purpose broadly of this new Provisional Committee to re-educate the German prisoners of war in the United States along anti-Fascist lines. The German American newspaper will be utilized as the main medium of propaganda in this work.

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[] was advised by [] the greatest efforts were being made to win over HENRY KAISER for their cause. He stated that a dinner would be held in Detroit in the near future for HENRY KAISER and many other important people, including Attorney General FRANCIS BIDDLE as invited guests. There a real and comprehensive program was to be launched with the chief emphasis on unity among German Americans. This dinner was planned to launch the Provisional National Committee of German Americans.

At the general conference of the "German American" newspaper held in New York City, February 25, 1945, a panel was conducted on the re-education of German war prisoners. The panel submitted a resolution which was adopted by the conference and published in the March 1, 1945 issue of the "German American". The text of this resolution was to the effect that since it is essential to stamp out all vestiges of Nazism and Fascism, and since there are presently 300,000 war prisoners in the United States who could become a democratic force after their return to Germany, it was therefore to the best interest of the world that these prisoners be re-educated and the "German American", an anti-Fascist German publication, is the best means for this re-education and "whereas the Trade Union Victory Committee of German Americans is the best suited organizational expression with which to carry out such re-educational program, be it resolved that this conference of German American anti-Nazis renew their pledge to do all in their power to further all efforts in the re-education of German war prisoners in the United States." The resolution went on to urge German Americans to distribute the paper and other "proper literature" for the prisoner camp libraries.

In this connection Confidential Informant [] was present during a conversation between a person called [] who is believed to be [] and the Secretary of JOSEPH CURRAN, President of the National Maritime Union. [] stated that he was representing the Committee for Re-educating German Prisoners and was interested in finding out whether CURRAN had agreed to sponsor his committee. The secretary stated that they had received a letter in regard to the matter on the letterhead of the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists, and that apparently CURRAN had sponsored the latter committee instead of [] committee.

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NY 100-25590

CURRAN'S secretary stated she would take up the matter with Mr. CURRAN when he returned and that [] committee would undoubtedly also receive a letter accepting sponsorship on the part of CURRAN. It was also mentioned during the course of the conversation that LEO HUBERMAN, Publicity Director of the National Maritime Union, had also sponsored PAUL'S committee.

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Confidential Informant [] secured a copy of a letter dated February 28, 1945 addressed to the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists, 1128 Lexington Avenue, which was signed by the "German American, Inc." In this letter it was stated that at the general conference of the "German American" it was proposed by the trade union panel that the Victory Committee should find a person who would become labor editor of the "German American." This letter requested the Victory Committee to appoint this labor editor and have him submit his material in the near future. In this connection it was noted from a review of the publication "The German American" that the trade union page reappeared in the February 1, 1945 issue and has again become a regular feature of the newspaper. The labor editor's name is not known at the present time. Efforts are continuing to ascertain his identity.

In the March 15, 1945 issue of the "German American" appears an article on the trade union page which is entitled "German American Trade Unionists Participate in Legislative Action." The text of this article states that the Victory Committee has started a new activity--the publication of a legislative bulletin which outlines briefly important legislative measures before national, state or municipal legislative bodies and recommends action to help pass good measures and defeat bad ones.

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[] attempted to secure a copy of this bulletin but was advised by [] on April 21st that it had not yet been published due to the pressure of work. It was stated by this informant that a great deal of the literature dealing with legislative problems was secured from the Greater New York Citizens Action Committee and stamped with the name of the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists. This is an additional indication that these organizations are working rather closely together.

It is interesting to note that on the trade union page of the same issue of the "German American" there appears an article entitled "Towards World Unity of Labor" by CHARLOTTE STERN, War Activity Director of Hotel and Club Employees Union, Local 6. This article praised the World Trade Union Conference which had just ended in London and denounced the A.F. of L. for its adherence to the International Federation of Trade Unions which had barred the trade unions of Russia in its membership.

NY 100-25590

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Confidential Informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, translated an article appearing in the New York "Staats-Zeitung Und Herald" of February 14, 1945. In this article the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists announced that it had congratulated CHURCHILL, ROOSEVELT and STALIN on their broad program for world peace and world security drawn up at the Crimean conference. The VCGATU concluded the article with an appeal to all Americans of German extraction to support the plans laid down at this historical conference. It was signed GUSTAVE FABER, General Secretary.

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The eastern conference of German American Trade Unionists sponsored by the subject organization was held at the Free World House, 144 Blauvelt Street, New York City on April 15, 1945. Confidential Informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that MICHAEL OBERMEIER, Chairman of the VCGATU, presided. The Credential Committee reported the following delegates as present:

25 from the CIO
20 from the A.F. of L.
2 from the Workmen's Benefit Association
2 from Philadelphia
1 from Nature Friends

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There were also 29 guests and friends present, making the total attendance of 79 persons. The meeting was opened at approximately 2:45 p.m. by a speaker representing LEO KRZYCKI, Chairman of the American Polish Labor Council. KRZYCKI was unable to attend in view of the fact that he was on his way to the San Francisco conference. His representative spoke on the Yalta decision urging support of it and stating that trade unionists must achieve the aims of the World Trade Union Conference. OBERMEIER then introduced JOSEPHINE MASSEY of the Italian Labor Committee who spoke briefly on the chaotic conditions in Italy and urged support of the decisions arrived at by the Yalta agreement. This speaker emphasized the desirability of the A.F. of L. aligning themselves in the World Trade Union Council along with the CIO. The next speaker was an unidentified woman representing the League of Women. According to [] this woman urged all delegates to be active in their unions and bring the message of international world trade unionism to every union member. She also urged each trade union member to write to his Senator in support of the San Francisco conference to be held on April 25, 1945.

MARGARET ADLER of the "German American" newspaper made a short speech urging the persons present to collect food and clothes for Russia, apparently in connection with Russian War Relief. The Resolutions Committee composed of ERIC SAENGER, RUDOLF KOHLER and three other individuals not known

NY 100-25590

to this informant took the floor. All resolutions were passed. Undoubtedly they will be published in forthcoming issues of the "German American" and will be subsequently reported.

[] advised that there was some discussion on the resolution concerning the use of Germans for slave labor rebuilding Europe. After some discussion this resolution was tabled. The informant said that the delegates were divided on the desirability of supporting such harsh terms for the conquered German people. After a lengthy speech the OBERMEIER compromise resolution was adopted on this resolution to the effect that there would be no obstacles placed in Russia's way at the San Francisco conference when she demanded German labor to rebuild Russia. The informant advised that at this conference GUSTAVE FABER and ERIC SAENGER again emphasized the educational value and progress of the "German American" newspaper, particularly in prisoner-of-war camps. For the support of this paper \$25.00 was collected from a delegate of the National Maritime Union. This delegate, whose identity could not be ascertained by [] made a very impressive speech from the floor. He was a well-dressed, well-built seaman who stated that he was organizing and distributing pamphlets and literature, including the "German American" in every port in which his ship touched. According to the informant, this man was an effective speaker and was shown a great deal of deference by the officials and the delegates present at the conference. It was the informant's opinion that this man was an important international Communist. Following this speech there was an announcement of an additional eastern conference of German American trade unionists to be called in about three or four months. The meeting adjourned about 7:30 p.m.

Confidential Informant [] was present during a conversation between [] of the VCGATU and [] of the Pan-American Division of the National Maritime Union and a known Communist. This conversation took place on February 16, 1943. During the course of the conversation, [] asked [] if the last Executive Board meeting of the National Maritime Union had taken up anything about the German American Trade Union Committee. [] stated that he did not know as he was not present at the meeting. It is believed that this conversation referred to sponsorship of the National Maritime Union of the VCGATU, or some affair being held under the auspices of that organization.

Detective [] New York City Police Department, and FRITZ STRASSNER, Chairman of the German American Committee, Local 89, Chiefs, Cooks and Pastry Cooks, A.F. of L., were contacted for additional information concerning subject organization with negative results. STRASSNER stated that he had sent two delegates of his German American Committee to the eastern conference of German American trade unionists, mentioned above, but that they had not as yet reported to him.

- PENDING -

NY 100-25590

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

AT NEW YORK, N. Y.

Will follow and report the activities of subject organization.

NY 100-25590

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 3, 1945 at New York, New York, are as follows:

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. (Further protection).

[redacted] is a highly confidential and reliable source who had access to the books and records of the "German American, Inc." (newspaper), 305 Broadway, [redacted]

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DECLASSIFIED BY 60309/AUC TAM/DCG/CAK
ON 03-21-2006 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The Commissioner
Immigration and Naturalization Service

May 31, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

OTTO KARL KAVEN, Member of the Victory Committee of the German
American Trade Unionists, New York, New York

Reference is made to the memorandum of Mr. Perry M. Oliver dated May 10, 1945, wherein information is requested concerning the above captioned individual and the organization of which he is a member, your reference numbers 56215/698; A-335574.

The name of Otto Karl Kaven, 534 East 148th Street, New York City, birth date indicated as March 8, 1899, appeared on a list of names of individuals who were alleged to have registered at the German Consulate in New York City subsequent to the outbreak of the present war. This registration was in conformance with the German law requiring German nationals of military age who were abroad to register at the nearest German Consulate in the event that nation became involved in war. 64 65-48824

The name of Otto Karl Kaven, 145 West 78th Street, New York City, appeared on a list of names of individuals who registered at the German Consulate, New York City, between January 1, 1939, and July 1, 1941, for German passports. 105-3949

The files of this Bureau reflect that information concerning the Victory Committee of the German American Trade Unionists was forwarded to your Service by memorandum dated November 1, 1944, in reply to a request for information concerning one [redacted] your reference numbers 56211/176; 56211/177; 56211/178; 56184/500 and 2530-P-98067. Information concerning this organization was also furnished with our memorandum of February 10, 1945, in reply to your request for information regarding one Michael Obermeier, your memorandum dated January 17, 1945.

100-96104

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Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Pennington	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

56215/698; A-335574

TO : J. Edgar Hoover, Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation
FROM : Perry M. Oliver, Director of Administrative Services,
Immigration and Naturalization Service, Central Office
SUBJECT: Otto Karl Kaven, member of the Victory Committee of the German American
Trade Unionists, New York, New York

DATE: May 10, 1945

Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

This Service is considering the eligibility of the above named petitioner for citizenship. It is requested that all information you may have concerning him and the above named organization be furnished us in duplicate.

The following data is submitted to assist you in this regard: The petitioner, a resident of 145 West 78th Street, New York, New York, was born on March 8, 1899, at Wessermunde, Hanover, Germany; is married; claims the occupational status of "waiter", entered the United States at New York, New York, on June 7, 1925, as a crew member aboard the SS Columbus.

It has been alleged that the organization in question had tried to absorb a number of organizations including the German American League for Culture, The Nature Friends, and other societies which were suspected of being communistically inclined.

Perry M. Oliver

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60309/AUC
M/DCG/CAK

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

100-96104-24

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK, NEW YORK**

CONFIDENTIAL NY FILE NO. **100-57744 CTC**

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 7/10/45	PERIOD FOR 4/10/45 6/6,7,8,11,12/45	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 20px;"></div>	b6 b7C
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TITLE
MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, was.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

CHARACTER OF CASE
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
DECLASSIFIED BY 60309/AUC TAM/DCG/C
ON 03-21-2006

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject still resides in Flushing, New York and is president of Local #6, Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union, AFL. Informant advises subject still prominent and influential member of CPA; however, holds no official title. Active in trade union circles and is a follower of CPA line. Remains chairman of the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists.

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP4 JPM/DIC
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2 2
DATE OF REVIEW 8-29-90

REFERENCE:

Bureau file 100-96104.
Report of Special Agent
New York, 9/7/44.

DETAILS:

This subject is considered to be a Key Figure in Communist activities in the New York Field Division.

[Confidential Informant] advised Special Agent [redacted] in September 1944 that the subject had applied for final United States citizenship and that from a reliable source ascertained that subject might be shortly granted his final citizenship. Informant stated that, in his opinion, subject was a representative of the Russian government and was associated with high circles of Soviet influences.

[Confidential Informant] advised that [redacted] of the National Negro Congress and [redacted] of CPA Headquarters had been presented with the problem of what disposition should be made of \$5000 contribution which the subject had suggested be divided among various negro organizations in New York.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES DESTROYED 1/13/74 COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 1 - Col. S.V. Constant, D of I, 2 SC 3 - New York		100-96104-25	RECORDED INDEXED 1
50		CONFIDENTIAL	EX 35

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

York . [] had decided, according to the informant, that this money could possibly be given to the National Negro Congress, Council of African Affairs, George Washington Carver School and the Negro Labor Victory Committee. (S) (U) (S) (U)

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[] Confidential Informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that the subject remains as chairman of the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists, a known Communist front organization. Informant stated that subject acted as chairman for the Eastern Conference of German American Trade Unionists meeting which was sponsored by the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists. He stated that this conference was held at the Free World House, 144 Bleecker Street, New York City on April 15, 1945. He advised that the representative of LEO KRZYCKI, Chairman of the American Polish Labor Council, spoke at the conference, urging support of the decisions reached at Yalta. He advised that OBERMEIER introduced JOSEPHINE MOSSEY of the Italian Labor Committee and considerable discussion was had on a resolution concerning the use of Germans for slave labor in the rebuilding of Europe. He advised that the delegates were divided on the support of the use of such harsh terms for the German people, but that the subject proposed a compromise resolution to the effect that there would be and should be no obstacles placed in the Russian way at the San Francisco Conference when she demanded German labor for her use in the rebuilding of Russia. Informant also advised that a person by the name of []

[] had been acquainted with the subject years ago in his home town in Bavaria and that the subject's ambition had been to establish a Communist Party in his home town. The informant advised that the subject still retains his position as president of Local #6 of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union, AFL.

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[] Confidential Informant [] also advised that ROSE WORTIS, member of the National Committee of the CPA and [] of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union, had commented in his presence concerning the subject in connection with the sending of a congratulatory telegram to QUINN of the New York State Assembly in connection with the victory in the New York State Assembly of the IVES-QUINN Anti-Discrimination bill. (S) (U) (S) (U)

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[] Confidential Informant [] advised that while in conversation with a member of Local #6 of the Hotel and Restaurant workers Union, 701 8th Avenue, New York City, he learned that this organization, led by the subject, was leading a fight at the Central Trades and Labor Council to have the AFL unions in New York go on record to establish membership with the World Trade Union Congress, an organization stated by the informant to be controlled mainly by []

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

the Communist Party of Russia. Informant stated that subject, as well as the entire executive board of Local #6 were censored at a recent meeting of the Central Trades and Labor Council for making an issue of the question of admittance to the above mentioned Communist setup, after having been refused the floor on this question by the chairman of the Central Trades and Labor Council. The informant stated that WILLIAM GREEN, President of the AFL, had publicly stated that the AFL would not affiliate with the World Trade Union Congress "because Russian labor unions are not free unions". (X) (U)

[Confidential Informant] advised that the subject was still definitely a prominent and influential member of the CPA, although he holds no official title at the present time. Informant stated that prior to its dissolution, he believed that the subject was on the Trade Union Commission of the New York State Committee of the Communist Party.

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Confidential Informant [] advised that he had ascertained that GIL GREEN, President of the New York State CPA, had contact with MARTIN YOUNG, in connection with the election campaign of MICHAEL QUILL in the latter part of 1943 and that YOUNG was desirous of contacting subject inasmuch as he, YOUNG, believed it would mean \$500 more for QUILL's campaign fund. (X) (U)

Confidential Informant [] stated that it had come to his attention that [] of the Industrial Section of the CPA, in the spring of 1944, had been interested in ascertaining the identities of the persons attending the meeting of group in opposition to the CPA and that she had said that subject would be a good source to ascertain who was attending this opposition meeting. (X) (U)

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[Confidential Informant] advised that the German American Committee, Local #89, Chefs' Union, AFL, had been invited to join the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists of which subject was president. The informant stated that the German American Committee had declined to accept this invitation after attending a special meeting of the Victory Committee, inasmuch as it was the belief of the organization that the subject and others in the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists were Communists and that the organization was not intended as a patriotic German American organization but was for the purpose of furthering the interests of the Communist Party among German American Trade Unions. The informant stated that the subject exerted considerable influence and even spoke privately with those members in attendance at the Victory Committee meeting, although he seldom officially spoke at those meetings.

The Daily Worker newspaper for October 26, 1944 reflected that the subject, with others, sponsored a Japanese Americans for Roosevelt rally, held in New York City in October, 1944. This article reflected that among the speakers was THELMA DALE, Executive Secretary of the National Negro Congress. The Daily Worker newspaper for November 27, 1944, reflected that the

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-57744

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

subject was scheduled to speak at a rally sponsored by the Japanese American Committee for Democracy, to be held on December 6, 1944.

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~~(S)~~ (U)
[Confidential Informant] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that the subject was listed as a sponsor of the German American Anti-Nazi Monthly, which was in turn sponsored by the German American Emergency Conference in 1943. The German American Anti-Nazi Monthly, as reflected by the informant, was the official publication of the German American League for Culture.

The April 15, 1944 issue of the publication PEOPLES VOICE, reflected that the subject spoke at a German American Emergency Conference meeting and stressed the fact that economic inequality prepared the ground work for race hatred.

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[redacted] advised that he had known the subject years ago and that he was connected with labor unions in some way at that time. He advised that he knew the subject came from Bavaria, but knew absolutely nothing concerning subject's background or concerning subject's activities in Germany. He stated that he had not seen the subject in New York for a great number of years and knew nothing about his activities in this country.

The United States Post Office, Flushing, New York, Office of the Superintendent of Mails, advised that the subject still received mail at his residence at 69-15 178 Street, Flushing, Long Island, New York.

The writer, from observation, ascertained that the subject resides in a private home located at 69-15, 178 Street, Flushing.

The following Confidential Informants, whose identities are known to the Bureau, were contacted concerning the subject with negative results:

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(U) ~~(S)~~

- P E N D I N G -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

NY 100-57744

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Will continue to follow and report the Communist activities of the subject.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-57744

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The identities of the Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of Special Agent [] dated July 10, 1945 at New York, New York are as follows:

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Confidential Informant []

[] who has previously furnished valuable information concerning Communist infiltration of the Food Workers Union.

Confidential Informant []

[] whose identity is known to the Bureau.

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Confidential Informant []

[] Special Squad 1, NYC Police Department.

Confidential Informant []

[] whose identity is known to the Bureau.

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Confidential Informant []

[] whose identity is known to the Bureau.

Confidential Informant []

[] of the German American Committee, Local #89, Chefs' Union, AFL, NYC.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York, New York

25445

TCK:HGF
100-25590

October 10, 1945

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: VICTORY COMMITTEE OF
GERMAN-AMERICAN TRADE
UNIONISTS;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

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Enclosed herewith are two copies of the typewritten report of Confidential National Defense Informant [redacted] dated October 1, 1945 pertaining to a program sponsored by the United Nations Victory Festival on September 30, 1945 at the Brooklyn Labor Lyceum, 949 Willoughby Avenue, Brooklyn, New York.

[redacted] mentioned in the third paragraph of Informant's report is undoubtedly [redacted] of the above captioned organization.

Very truly yours,

E. E. Conroy
E. E. CONROY
SAC

DECLASSIFIED BY 603099/AUC TAM/DCG/CAK
N 03-21-2006

Encs. 2

cc NY File 62-6806

INDEXED
EX-68

100-96104-26

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Oct. 2, 1946

DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60399/AUC

TAM/DCG/CRK On Sept. 30, the United Nations Victory Festival sponsored a program of European dances and singing at Brooklyn Labor Lyceum, 369 Willoughby Avenue. The entertainers were Mrs. Sylvia Kahn who sang songs popular in party circles, Yugoslav Chorus "Unity" led by Dr. Ljubo Goranin, The Tamboritsa Quartette led by Nadya Taranda, Austrian Dance Group, Radichev Singers led by Helen Gelfbacheffska, Polish Dance Group made up of AYDers, a ten year old American-Russian boy who did a cossack dance, and the Karl Weiss Band.

Those scheduled on the program but not appearing were Estelle Parnos, pianist, Michael Lopes, Spanish entertainer, Finnish Folk Group, and Spanish Folk Group.

Very brief speeches were made by Joseph Kehoe, director of organization for the OIO, Erich Saenger (phonetic) of the newsletter, Germany Today, a Mr. Rumpf who appeared to be boss of the show, and a representative of the Austrian Trade Union Committee. Trudy Tannak (phonetic) was chairwoman. Johannes Steele, a scheduled speaker, was unable to attend because of a death in his family, according to Rumpf.

Speaking in Steele's stead, Rumpf praised the spirit of the festival which was one of many ways of carrying out the Charter of the United Nations. He said the UNVP, with headquarters at 144 Bleeker St., intends to continue its work of fostering friendship between the anti-fascists of different nationalities.

Saenger, who was described as a veteran of 40 years in the labor movement, plugged the newsletter, Germany Today, edited by the German communist, Albert Norden. He followed with a solo skit about Ike and Mike, a Jew and a Christian who were always quarreling much to the delight of their boss. To make sure his audience got the point, he told them that racial inharmony is always in the interests of the bosses at the expense of the workers.

The Austrian Trade Union Committee representative spoke his appreciation of the Kanner government for laying the groundwork of a free Austrian people.

Kehoe said the victory over fascism proved the strength of anti-fascists of all nationalities, but they must continue to fight to win the peace. This fight, he continued, must be directed against Thomas Dewey and his Republican colleagues who are the leaders of anti-democracy in America. He then accused Dewey of supporting anti-Semitism and measures against the foreign born. He concluded with an appeal for the election of O'Dwyer.

About 600 persons were present, although arrangements were made for about 1,000. The great majority were non-Jewish Russians, followed by a sprinkling of other Slavonic groups. No collection was taken. On sale at the literature table were Izvestia, Pravda, Russky Golos, New Times in Russian and English, Moscow News, other Russian-printed publications, and Germany Today.

Despite the varied national dances and songs promised, the accent was heavily on the Russian side, much to the interest of the audience who seemed quite attached to the Soviet Regime.

The Austro-American Youth passed out leaflets announcing a dance at 119 E. 11th St., Oct. 20. The headquarters of this organization is at 119 E. 11th St. and is a member of this group and an

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Immigration and Naturalization Service
70 Columbus Avenue
New York 23, N. Y.

14330

File No. 2271-350451 RD
Brooklyn

October 16, 1945

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Security Division

Please furnish a report as to the nature of any information contained in any file which your Bureau may have concerning the following:

Name: **MICHAEL OBERMEIER**

FBI No. if any:

Alien Registration No.: **4690122**

Date of Birth: **November 13, 1892**

Place of Birth: **Munich, Germany**

Places of residence: **69-15 178th Street, Flushing, N.Y.**
(last 5 years)

Race: **white**

Color: **white**

Sex: **male**

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60309/AUC
TAM/DCG/CAK

Please mail the attached copy of this request with your reply to the address shown below.



W. F. WATKINS
District Director
New York District

(In duplicate)
elh

(For use by Federal Bureau of Investigation)

MAIL TO:

District Director
Immigration and Naturalization Service
70 Columbus Avenue
New York 23, N. Y.

100-96104-

According to Bureau files, your subject has been long active as a Left Wing leader in New York labor movements and a consistent follower of the Communist Party line. He has been the president of Local No. 6, Hotel and Restaurant U. A. F. L. He was the president of the Victory Committee of the German-American Trade Unionist and active in German-American Emergency Conference, both of which were Communist fronts. In 1925, he was a member of the executive board of the Trade Union Educational League under William Z. Foster, presently the Secretary-General of the Communist Party of the United States. It has been reliably reported to this Bureau that subject was an international representative of the Communist Party

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Revised 8-24-45)

(over)

from America who once worked in Russia under the Red International Trade Union. He was also reported to have attended the Lenin Institute of Moscow during 1933. As of July 10, 1945, he was still considered a prominent influential member of the Communist Political Association.

RDD:gms

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SAC, New York

November 27, 1945

John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS
INTERNAL SECURITY - I

A review of the Bureau files reflects that the last report submitted by your office was the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 3, 1945. It is desired that a supplemental report bringing this investigation up to date be made available to the Bureau as soon as possible. *ch*

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60309/AUC
TAM/DCG/CAK

100-96104-27
ESTIMATED
NOV 28 1945
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

WKH:aop
100-96104

CONFIDENTIAL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK** ON 03-21-2006

DECLASSIFIED BY 60309/AUC TAM/DCG/CAK

NY FILE NO. 100-25590

JCD

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 1/31/46	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 12/21, 26-29/45 1/2, 3, 7-9/46	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>
TITLE VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS, also known as German American Council of Trade Unionists, German American Trade Union Committee.			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject organization presently maintains office at Free World House, 144 Eleecker Street, NYC. VCGATU sponsors "Union Spotlight" editorial page in the semi-monthly paper "German American". Organization presently advocating through editorials in "German American" speakers and letter to government officials for recognition of the "proven anti-Nazi Germans in occupied Germany". VCGATU defends Russia's foreign policy and quotes information from Russian periodicals. Organization approves control of atomic bomb by United Nations Organization. Also supports CIO-UAW in strike against General Motors. **COSTAV FABER**, Secretary of VCGATU, and **WILLIAM VON RUMPF**, Organizational Director of VCGATU, reported to have joined other German American representatives in meeting, November 7, 1945, with representatives of State and War Departments, Washington, D. C., for formation of organization to be known as "American Committee for the Relief of German Children and Needy, Inc.". Informants report officers of instant organization are in contact with known members of the Communist Party. **WILLIAM VON RUMPF** reported as active member of 16th AD Club of CPA.

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Classified by **SP-AG-50**
Declassify on: **OADR 9/9/89**

REFERENCE: b6
b7C

Bureau File No. 100-96104.
Report of Special Agent New York, 283013
5/3/45.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES DESTROYED 6/11/54		100-96104-28
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		RECORDED & INDEXED 71
5 Bureau 1 Col. S.V. Constant D. of I., 2 SC 3 New York cc: O.N. 2 Stab G 3 067A		F B I 30 FEB 5 1946 CONFIDENTIAL

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DETAILS:

ACTIVITIES OF ORGANIZATION

The April 1, 1945 issue of the "German American", a semi-monthly publication, contains an article announcing that GUSTAV FABER, Secretary of the VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS, addressed an audience of 400 merchant seamen at the Seamen's Institute on March 22, 1945. His topic was "German American and Yalta".

The "Daily Worker", dated May 10, 1945, on Page 8 contains an article entitled "U. S. Germans Hail Defeat of Fascism", reflecting statements of GUSTAV FABER, Executive Secretary, and WILLIAM VON RUMPF, Director. The article read:

"Americans of German descent yesterday hailed the defeat of Hitler Fascism and pledged their efforts to help destroy Fascism throughout the world. The real perpetrators of German Fascism must be sought out, swiftly brought to trial and punished as war criminals. Europe must be rebelled and the German people have a moral responsibility in this task. It is their only means of showing their rejection of Fascism. The regeneration of a democratic Germany must be brought about. The United Nations should avail themselves of the proven anti-Fascist Germans remaining Germany or in exile for this task."

The "German American" for June 15, 1945 on Page 3 contains an article entitled "What Next With Germany?". This topic reflected that at a meeting at the Yorkville Casino, held under the auspices of the German American Emergency Conference, the VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS, and the Friends of the "German American", Dr. FELIX BOENHEIM, Chairman of the German American Emergency Conference, sought to expose the reactionary forces in the United States which hate Russia and work for the destruction of American-Russian friendship. BOENHEIM in his speech emphasized that the "hatred of Russia is dangerous. It may lay the groundwork for the next war."

This article set out that WALTER MUELLER, Secretary of the German American Emergency Conference, spoke next, calling for the support of the German American plan for the re-education of German war prisoners and assistance of political refugees in this country. In the discussion that followed, GERHART EISLER emphatically denounced the theory of the master German race and called for assistance in the building of a new Germany free from Fascism.

The files of the New York Field Division reflected that GERHART EISLER is a German refugee who is reported to be an influential international Communist.

The "Daily Worker" of July 14, 1945 sets out a statement that GUSTAV FABER, Executive Secretary of VOGATU, urged that anti-Fascist political parties be allowed to re-organize an American occupied zone in Germany. In a letter sent

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to the United States Secretary of War and State, FABER stated that by permitting the old Catholic, democratic, social democrats, and Communist parties to re-organize, an American military government would be given respect and responsibilities to the proven anti-Nazi Germans and encourage democratic movements in Germany. It is noted that the "Daily Worker" sets out that this letter was dispatched in the name of 200,000 American workers of German descent.

The "German American" of August 1, 1945 under the article entitled "The Renewal of Political Life in Germany" supports an agreement between the Communist and the social democrats in Germany as expressed by WILHELM PIECK, Secretary of the Communist Party in Germany, for the clearing of the way for a "German labor party of a Marxist-scientific basis".

This article sets out "Therefore, the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists, which during the entire war has pitilessly and continually worked for the defeat of Hitler Germany, is the first German organization recently to address an appeal to our government in the name of thousands of workers affiliated with it to lift the ban on the formation of democratic political parties in the American zone."

The August 4, 1945 issue of the "Daily Worker" sets out an article under the heading "National Groups Warmly Receive Results of Potsdam Conference", in which GUSTAV FABER, Executive Secretary of the VOGATU, stated that the Potsdam Conference has given the green light to Germany's democratic forces.

The "German American" issue of September 1, 1945 sets out a Labor Day greeting to the paper on Page 3 as follows:

"For the establishment of a democratic Germany in a democratic world. For a strong and united World Trade Unionist Movement."

This greeting was signed by the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists.

On Page 9 of the same issue the following announcement appeared:

"Our readers from New York and vicinity are cordially invited to a public discussion of the theme 'Has Germany A Future'." The speaker was noted to be GERHART EISLER and was to be held on Wednesday, September 12th, at 8:30 P.M. in the Transport Workers Hall, 153 West 64th Street, New York City. It is noted that this meeting was held under the auspices of the Friends of the German American, VOGATU, and the German American Emergency Conference.

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NY 100-25590

The October 1, 1945 issue of the "German American" announced that GERHART EISLER in his address on September 12, 1945 had praised the Potsdam Resolution and suggested that the "German American" help support the "best elements" in Germany to achieve understanding and confidence in the world.

The "German American" of September 15, 1945 on Page 3 published a declaration urging Americans of German descent to take part in the building of a democratic Germany. The declaration sets out that those persons who are using the slogan "that Fascism is the fault of Russia" are trying to spotlight the united front of the nations and start a third world war. This article was signed by GUSTAV FABER, Editor of the "German American", MICHAEL J. DOBERMETER, Chairman of the VOGATU, Dr. FELIX BOENHEIM, Chairman of the German American Emergency Conference, and WALTER MUELLER, Chairman of the Friends of the German American.

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Confidential Informant [] advised that on September 27, 1945, GUSTAV FABER, Executive Secretary of the VOGATU, and FERDINAND SMITH, Secretary of the National Maritime Union, a reported Communist, held a conference regarding a contribution which FABER was seeking from the National Maritime Union for the German American Trade Union Committee. At the conference, FABER stated that his committee now issued a four page folder called "Germany Today", which contains newest information regarding Germany.

It is noted that a review of the morning issues of the "German American" reflects that the publication still contains an entire page of the paper devoted to "The Union Spotlight" sponsored by the VOGATU. The November 15, 1945 issue of the "German American" contains an article on the page devoted to "The Union Spotlight" entitled "Trade Unions in Germany". It is noted that an excerpt from an article which appeared in the magazine "New Times" published in Moscow is the text of the article "Trade Unions in Germany".

The aforementioned article sets out that intense political education will be needed to infuse new healthy blood into the veins of the German working class movement and to so purify it of the "Fascist contamination". This article reflected that MARSHAL ZHUKOV's order on June 11, 1945, granting free and unhampered activity to the anti-Fascist party, will permit German workers to perform new free trade unions.

In an editorial on the same page of the November issue of the "German American" there is an article which reflects that the VOGATU approves the CIO Resolution for control of the atomic bomb by the United Nations Organization.

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On September 30, 1945, Confidential Informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reported that the United Nations Victory Festival held at the Brooklyn Labor Lyceum was attended by 600 persons. Informant [] related that WILLIAM VON RUMPF appeared to be Master of Ceremonies and spoke to the gathering concerning the fostering of friendship between anti-Fascist and other different nationalities. Informant [] advised that the meeting's accent was "heavily on the Russian side".

The January 1, 1946 edition of the "German American" contained an article entitled "Back Up Your Brothers!", in which the VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS, the GAEC, and the Friends of the "German American" urged the readers to send contributions of goods and money to the Regional Office of the United Automobile Workers to aid them in their strike against General Motors.

The "German American" issue of November 15, 1945 contains an advertisement of a meeting to be held at the Yorkville Casino, 216 East 86th Street, New York City, on November 23, 1945. It was reported that the topic "A Report on Relief of Postal Service to Germany" would be discussed. The speakers were advertised to be HANS A. SPECHT, GUSTAV FABER, and ERIC R. SAENGER, referred to in the paper as members of the German American Delegation to Washington.

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Confidential Informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that he learned that the meeting held in Yorkville Casino on November 23, 1945, there were approximately 600 persons present and that during the meeting approximately 200 people walked out of the hall when they sensed the Communist nature of the meeting. In this regard it is noted that the "German American" of December 1, 1945 contains an article which stated "About one hundred sympathizers of FRITZ KUHN, using the old tactics of the Bund as they did before the war, noisily left the hall. Apparently they thought to break up the meeting. Shouts of 'break it up', 'let's get out of here' and 'Jews' could be heard".

The December 1945 news letter, "Germany Today", published by ARTHUR NORDEN sets out that the meeting organized by the anti-Nazi German Americans in Yorkville New York on November 23, 1945 was interrupted by elements of the Chicago Fascist "Relief" Movement organized by FRANK WERK, who, the article stated, is a contact of GERALD L. K.-SMITH. Regarding the speakers at the above meeting, it is noted that "German American" of November 15, 1945 contained a front page story reflecting that HANS A. SPECHT, GUSTAV FABER, and ERIC R. SAENGER, along with other German Americans from Cleveland and Chicago, contacted members of the State and War Departments of Washington, D.C., on November 7, 1945 on the formation of a group to be known as the "American Committee for the Relief of German Children and Needy, Inc.".

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Confidential Informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that HANS A. SPECHT is very well known in German American circles in New York City and was in charge of the German American Bond Committee during the war. Informant [] advised that to his knowledge, SPECHT has never been identified with the Communist Party. Informant [] believes that SPECHT is being used by the Communist element in the VCGATU and the GAEC as a front.

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It is noted that ERIC R. SAENGER is reported to have been Secretary of the German District Bureau of the Communist Party in 1936, and Confidential Informant [] reported on July 22, 1944 that ERIC SAENGER holds CPA Membership Card Number 30218, belonging to the Queens County Headquarters of the CPA, New York City. (U)

On December 28, 1945, the writer contacted FRITZ STRASSNER, Chairman of the German American Committee, Local 89, Chefs Union, A.F. of L., and an employee at Manny Wolf's Restaurant, 49th Street and Third Avenue, New York City. STRASSNER was contacted inasmuch as he has been helpful in the past in this investigation and reported to be anti-Communistic in his sympathies. STRASSNER advised that his group has never joined the VCGATU and will not join it because of the Communist elements in the subject organization. STRASSNER advised that he received letters and announcements, perhaps once a month from the VCGATU. However, he has never gone to any of their meetings or functions. STRASSNER advised that he understands that MICHAEL OBERMEIER is still Chairman of the VCGATU, that GUSTAV FABER is Secretary, and LEO BELSSEL is Treasurer. STRASSNER advised that he learned there was a meeting in November at the Yorkville Casino in which various German American groups participated, and he understood that many persons walked out of the meeting because of the Communistic nature of the speeches. STRASSNER could give no further information regarding the activities of subject organization.

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Confidential Informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, translated an article in the January 1, 1946 issue of the "German American" which sets out an invitation to all organizations who are friends of the "German American", to the VCGATU, and the GAEC, to send representatives to a meeting to be held 8:30 P.M., January 14, 1946 at the Transportation Workers Hall, 153 West 64th Street, New York City. The purpose of this meeting was to work out plans for a huge rally of German Americans to be held March 10, 1946 at the Irving Plaza Hotel, New York City. This article indicated that the rally on March 10, 1946 would be identified as "A Salute to a Democratic Germany".

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NY 100-25590

COMMUNIST PARTY ACTIVITIES IN CONNECTION WITH SUBJECT ORGANIZATION

The files of Special Squad One, New York Police Department, were examined by the writer on January 8, 1946 and reflected that GUSTAV FABER was reported to have been a former Communist member of the German Reichstag. Their file reflected that GUSTAV FABER spoke at a meeting held at Manhattan Center, 34th Street and 8th Avenue, New York City, on May 17, 1945, which meeting was sponsored by the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, 13 Astor Place, New York City.

The files of Special Squad One reflected that MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER's name is mentioned as one of the A.F. of L. leaders in the Communist Party inner circles in an exposé by TIM HOLMES, former negro leader in the Communist Party. This same information was published in the New York World Telegram, March 20th-25th, 1944.

The above files reflected that WILLIAM L. VON RUMPF, 1453 First Avenue, New York City, was a Communist Party delegate to the American Peace Mobilization held in Chicago, Illinois, in 1941.

On May 13, 1945, Confidential Informant [] advised that he was present during a conference between VON RUMPF, Organizational Director of the VCGATU, and ISRAEL AMTER, Vice President of the New York City CPA, during which time VON RUMPF made an appointment for VON RUMPF and GUS (believed to be GUSTAV FABER) to see AMTER. Confidential Informant [] also advised that VON RUMPF was printing a statement for AMTER that was to be released on Monday, June 4, 1945. On this same date, [] also was present during a conference between FABER and AMTER, and AMTER advised that the statement that the refugees want to give out should not be backed by FABER's committee because of the political ideals of the refugees. ~~(X)~~

The "Daily Worker" of June 4, 1945 contained an article entitled "Sixteen Anti-Nazi Seek Visas for Return to Reich". It is believed that this article was the statement referred to by Confidential Informant [] in the reported conference. This article sets out "Sixteen German anti-Nazi refugees yesterday expressed their desire to return to Germany and appealed to the United States State Department for assistance.....".

Confidential Informant [] ~~(X)~~ (U) whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that WILLIAM VON RUMPF was an active member of the 16th AD Club of the Communist Political Association in New York. VON RUMPF also is the Treasurer of the Greater New York Council for Citizens' Action, which is a reported Communist front organization. He is also reported as a Communist member of the United Electric, Radio and Mechanic Workers of America, Local 1227, CIO.

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Confidential Informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised on April 3, 1945 that at the Executive Committee meeting of the Yorkville Communist Club, New York City, WILLIAM VON RUMPF was asked to speak at the German American Forum to be held on April 10, 1945 by the club. However, VON RUMPF declined, stating that he was scheduled to speak over Station W.M.C.A. at 9:00 P.M. VON RUMPF was reported to have asked at this meeting that all German American Trade Union members attend a meeting on Sunday, April 15, 1945, to be held at 2:00 P.M. at the Free World House, 144 Bleecker Street, New York City. (U)

It is noted that this meeting was previously reported in the report of Special Agent [] dated May 3, 1945, at New York City.

On February 10, 1944, Confidential Informant [] made available photostatic copies of a fifteen page memorandum published by the German American Emergency Conference, 305 Broadway, New York City, entitled "Two Years of War and Work". In view of the fact that portions of this memorandum give a good outline of the purposes and systems of the instant organization, pertinent portions are set out below.

"In trade unions in which a large number of German Americans are organized, we have a task to make active union members of them and to discuss with them the possibilities which must be utilized to help speed the downfall of Hitler and to help prepare to rebuild plundered and destroyed free trade unions of Germany. We must lay the foundation for real solidarity between American trade unionists and the former trade unionists which were the first to be victims of Hitler's bloody military suppression."

"As one of the essential steps toward unity of German Americans, an excellent leadership must be established among the German American trade unionists and understanding must be reached between existing trade union committees in different German communities and in districts where no German American Trade Unionist Committee is in existence. It should be established in the shortest possible time. To organize a real national conference of German American trade unionists, the foundation must be the establishment of German American committees in all local unions and shops in which German Americans can be mobilized."

Confidential Informant [] furnished a copy of a letter taken from the desk of GUSTAV FABER, Editor of the "German American" and Secretary of the VCGATU. This letter, dated December 26, 1945, on the letterhead of the

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Communist Party of New York City, 35 East 12th Street, New York City, is set out verbatim as follows:

"Dear Comrade:

"A very important meeting will take place in my office on Saturday, September 29, at 10:00 A.M., on the fifth floor.

"The meeting will not last long, and I hope you will be on time so that nobody will be held up unnecessarily.

"I count positively on your being present.

"Comradely yours,
Israel Amter.

"

(U) On January 2, 1946, Special Agent [redacted] contacted Confidential Informants [redacted] whose identities are known to the Bureau, with negative results concerning the subject organization.

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(U) On January 3, 1946, Special Agent [redacted] contacted Confidential Informants [redacted] whose identities are known to the Bureau, with negative results concerning subject organization.

On January 3, 1946 Confidential Informant [redacted] advised Special Agent [redacted] that the address of the VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS is now 144 Bleecker Street, New York City, and that the organization is a German Stalinist front. Informant [redacted] advised that he believes this organization is now operated only as a "paper" front and used the same office as the organization "American Youth for a Free World, located at the Free World House, 144 Bleecker Street, New York City.

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(U) Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised Special Agent [redacted] that subject organization is an active front of the Communist Party. Informant [redacted] advised that WILLIAM VON RUMPF is an active national figure in the German American movement and that VON RUMPF and his wife, RUTH, are members of the Yorkville Club, CP. Informant [redacted] believed that all officers of the VCGATU are Communist Party members or sympathetically with the Communists. Informant [redacted] related that he believed that FABER was a member of the Communist Party. (U)

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NY 100-25590

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Will follow and report the activities of subject organization.

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CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of Special Agent [redacted] New York, dated January 31, 1946, are as follows:

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[redacted] Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau.

[redacted] A highly confidential and reliable source of information known to Special Agents [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. J (X) (U)

[redacted] A highly confidential and reliable source of information known to the agents of the Pittsburgh Field Office. The memorandum referred to was in possession of [redacted] a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party.

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[redacted] A highly confidential and reliable source who had access to the records of the office of the "German American" newspaper, located at 305 Broadway, Room 207, New York City, on October 1, 1945. This information is known to Special Agents [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. **100-57744 KOB**

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 4/5/46	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2/1, 15, 13/5, 13, 25, 26/46	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>
TITLE MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, with aliases			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

N O
JUL
1946
45
 STATISTICS

Subject resides Flushing, NY and is president of Local No. 6, Hotel & Restaurant Workers Union, AFL, now located at 305 W. 44th St., NYC. Informants advised subject president of German American Trade Union Committee; active in the German American Emergency Conference; and chairman of the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists, allegedly Communist front organizations. Informants state subject influential member of CP of long standing and very active in trade union circles in NY. Follows CP line in his Union and in trade union matters.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60309/AUC

REFERENCE:

Bureau File No. 100-96104.
Report of Special Agent

CAK
New York, 7/10/45.

DETAILS:

It was ascertained from personal observation and a check at the U. S. Post Office, Flushing, New York that the subject continues to reside in a private home at 69-15 178th Street, Flushing, Long Island, New York.

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Confidential Informant whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that subject remains as president of Local No. 6 of the Hotel & Restaurant Workers Union, AFL, now located at 305 West 44th Street, New York City, having moved from its location at 701 Eighth Avenue, New York City.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <div style="text-align: center;"><i>E. E. Conroy</i> 980</div>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="font-size: 2em; text-align: center;">100-96104-29</div> <div style="text-align: center;">RECORDED INDEXED 1946</div>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau 1 Col. S. V. Constant, D. of I 2-SC 3 New York <i>CCAR</i> <i>7-25-46</i> <i>246</i> COPY IN FILE		

NY 100-57744

A review of the official publication of Local No. 6, Hotel & Restaurant Workers Union, AFL, the "Hotel & Club Voice" reflects that the subject was re-elected president of this Local by an outstanding vote on January 28, 1946.

A review of this publication also reflected that the Union has grown from 446 members in 1938 to 20,000 members at the present time. The publication reflected that OBERMEIER had in February, 1946 gone to Los Angeles, California as the National representative to the International Meeting of the Union. During his absence CHARLES COLLINS, a well known negro Communist labor leader and executive secretary of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, a Communist front organization, acted as president.

The publication further reflected that the subject while on his trip talked to many servicemen and obtained their re-actions on many issues including their reaction to the labor movement, the menace of racial discrimination, etc. He stated many soldiers from the South spoke sharply against discrimination and praised the courage and devotion of the negro men with whom they fought the common battle against Hitler.

It was also reflected in this publication that the subject is secretary-treasurer of the Joint Board of the New York State Culinary Alliance; is president of the German American Trade Union Committee; active in the German American Emergency Conference and chairman of the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists.

In connection with subject's position as chairman of the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists the March 2nd, 1946 issued of the "Hotel & Club Voice" reflects that subject presided at a meeting in the latter part of February, 1946 of this Committee and stated that the Victory Committee has been combating Nazism among German Americans since the beginning of the war and would continue to do so until the menace of Nazism and Fascism is eliminated.

According to this publication the subject introduced WILLIAM E. DODD, Jr., son of the former U.S. Ambassador to Berlin, who spoke at the meeting. Resolutions were adopted by the delegates which consisted of 24 CIO and 21 AFL Unions, calling upon our State & War Departments to publish the list of Nazis in the United States, found in Germany; urging the American Labor movement to give all possible aid to German workers for the formation of one united German Trade Union Movement and a resolution supporting the transport workers union of New York City in their demands for a collective bargaining agreement and a wage increase.

NY 100-57744

A message was also sent to the German workers in which they urged the trade union and both workers parties, the Social Democrats and the Communists, to insure unity in their ranks because a split in the ranks of labor made possible Hitler's ascent to power.

A review of the various issues of Local No. 6's official publication reflects that the subject is very active in the trade union field and that the local of which subject is president has advocated the following:

- 1) Sending protests to the President of the United States requesting the U. S. Government break relations with Franco Spain.
- 2) Protesting the action taken by the New York Board of Education in the MAY A. SPINN case, a teacher charged with racial discrimination and intolerance who was cleared by the Board of Education.
- 3) Protesting against Churchill's speech in Missouri.
- 4) Representatives of the Union engaging in the anti-France demonstration at the Spanish Consulate sponsored by the American Committee for Spanish Freedom and the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade.
- 5) Protesting action taken by the New York newspapers against MICHAEL J. QUILL, New York City Councilman and alleged Communist.
- 6) Supporting JOHANNES STEEL in his campaign for Congressman.
- 7) Protesting the continuance of the Rankin un-American Committee and abolish the committee's hounding of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee.

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Confidential Informant [] advised that the subject was a known Communist and an influential member of the Communist Party of long standing. He also advised that the subject was very active in the trade union field in New York and followed the Communist Party line in trade union matters. The informant stated he did not believe the subject was too active in actual Communist Party affairs at the present time but instead concentrated his efforts in trade union work for the Party.

This informant further stated that the subject in addition to being president of Local No. 6, Hotel & Restaurant Workers Union, is chairman of the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists; president of the German American Trade Union Committee and active in the

NY 100-57744

German American Emergency Conference, all of which according to the informant are Communist front groups.

The "Daily Worker" on May 10, 1945 reflected that the subject representing the AFL was a delegate at the World Trade Union Conference held in California in May, 1945.

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Confidential Informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that subject was definitely a member of the Communist Party and remained active in the trade union field in the Fall of 1944. He further advised that he had no pertinent information concerning any recent activities of the subject.

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Confidential Informant [] advised that [] of the Transport Workers Union and [] of the New York State Communist Party conferred in the Fall of 1945 concerning the subject and relative to trade union matters. [] believed it would be necessary for the subject, [] and himself to have a conference. The informant stated that he did not know with what this conference would deal.

Confidential Informant [] advised that RICHARD MORFORD, executive director of the National Council of American Soviet Friendship conferred with the subject and requested subject to speak and to represent the AFL at the anti-Churchill rally held for all the trade unionists in Union Square Park. According to the informant MORFORD stated that the purpose of the rally was to counter act the anti-Soviet Churchill talk prior to the time the UNO convened in New York City. According to this informant the subject did not speak at this rally.

The following confidential informants were contacted with negative results:

CONF. INET
[]

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- P E N D I N G -

NY 100-57744

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

NEW YORK

At New York, N.Y.

Will follow and report Communist activities of the subject.

NY 100-57744

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The confidential informants referred to in the report of
Special Agent [redacted] dated April 5, 1946 are as follows:

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[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Immigration and Naturalization Service
70 Columbus Avenue
New York 23, N. Y.

File No 2271-444284 ABPU

IM

July 12, 1946

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60309/AUC
TAM/DCG/CAK

Attention: Security Division

JI Please furnish a report as to the nature of any information contained in
any file which your Bureau may have concerning the following:

Name: **Michael John Obermaier - Michael Obermaier**

FBI No. if any:

Alien Registration No.: **4690122**

Date of Birth: **Nov. 13, 1892**

Place of Birth: **Munich, Germany**

Places of residence: **New York, N.Y.**
(last 5 years)

Race: **White** Color: **White** Sex: **Male**

Please mail the attached copy of this request with your reply to the
address shown below.

W. F. Watkins

W. F. WATKINS
District Director
New York District

(In duplicate)

(For use by Federal Bureau of Investigation)

MAIL TO:

District Director
Immigration and Naturalization Service
70 Columbus Avenue
New York 23, New York

#5 JCF

A review of the records of this Bureau has revealed that the following information
was forwarded to the local office of Immigration and Naturalization Service at 70
Columbus Avenue, New York, New York, about November 20, 1945.

AR-17-A
(Revised 8-24-45)

(over)

AUG 20 1946

According to Bureau files, your subject has been long active as a left wing leader in New York labor movements and a consistent follower of the Communist Party line. He has been the president of Local No. 6, Hotel and Restaurant Union, AFL. He was the president of the Victory Committee of the German-American Trade Unionist and active in German-American Emergency Conference, both of which were Communist fronts. In 1925, he was a member of the executive board of the Trade Educational League under William Z. Foster, presently the Secretary-General of the Communist Party of the United States. It has been reliably reported to this Bureau that subject was an international representative of the Communist Party from America who once worked in Russia under the Red International Trade Union. He was also reported to have attended the Lenin Institute of Moscow during 1933. As of July 10, 1945, he was still considered a prominent influential member of the Communist Political Association.

Other information contained in the files of this Bureau has indicated that about February 10, 1945, the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization Service at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was furnished with a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] August 2, 1944, at New York, New York, and a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated September 7, 1944, at New York, New York, a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 17, 1944, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in the case entitled MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, with alias INTERNAL SECURITY - C. Your attention is directed to those reports inasmuch as they contain data concerning the subject of your inquiry.

In addition to the foregoing reports there was also enclosed a copy of a four page summary of information relating to the Trade Union Unity League which existed from 1929 to 1935 when it was officially dissolved. Your attention is also directed to that summarization. Moreover, Obermeier as of April, 1946, resided in Flushing, New York and is still president of local No. 6, Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union, AFL. Informants have advised that he is president of the German American Trade Union Committee, active in the German American Emergency Conference, and Chairman of the Victory Committee of the German American Trade Unionist, allegedly a Communist front organization. Informants have stated that he is an influential member of the Communist Party of long standing and very active in trade union circles in New York. He reportedly follows the Communist Party line in his Union and in his trade Union matters.

(100-96104)

JEF:gms

100-96104
SAC, New York

July 17, 1946

Director, FBI

MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIR, with aliases
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
New York File 100-57744

From a review of the Bureau's file in this case it is felt that considerable evidence exists which will prove his membership in the Communist Party and his knowledge of the aims and purposes of this Party.

It is accordingly desired that a prosecutive summary report be prepared at an early date wherein will be set forth all admissible evidence tending to prove the above two points.

In the preparation of this report it is requested that temporary symbols be used to further protect the identities of any informants who are in a position to testify.

ARS:WMJ
100-96104

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TAM/DCG/CAK

100-96104-30

100-96104-30

F B I

18 1946

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

[Handwritten signature]

100-96104-30

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 03-21-2006 BY 60309/AUC

NY FILE NO. 100-57744 CG

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE/CA 7/29/46	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 5/23; 6/17 & 7/11/46	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 15px; width: 100%;"></div>
TITLE MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, with aliases			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY-C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject resides 69-15 178th Street, Flushing, L.I., employed as president of Local 6, Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union, A. F. of L. 305 West 44th Street, NYC, Telephone CI 6-8323. He is a German citizen, white race; filed declaration of intention 4/25/39 ~~EDNY~~ and later petition for naturalization which was dismissed 5/14/46 for failure to appear in court. Subject born Munich, Germany 11/13/92. Wife, GEORGETTE VILEUR, born Strassbourg, France (Germany) 6/30/96. Subject's father HANS and mother, ANNA SCHWARTZ, both born Germany; wife's father, JULES VILEUR and her mother JULIE STEGNER, also both born Germany. Subject continues active in Communist front organizations and on 2/24/46 was opening speaker at a conference sponsored by the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unions at headquarters of Local 6.

P*

REFERENCE:

Bureau file 100-96104
Report of Special Agent 4/5/46 at NYC
SAC letter No. 28, Series 1946, 3/12/46

DETAILS:

Special Agent ascertained that subject resides at 69-15 178th Street, Flushing, Long Island and that he does not have a telephone listing.

A pretext telephone call to Local 6, Hotel & Restaurant Workers

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>E. E. Conroy</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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3-New York		INDEXED	
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NY 100-57744

Union, A. F. of L. 305 West 44th Street, New York City, telephone Circle 6-8323, disclosed that subject is still president of that organization and has his office at that address.

The records of the Naturalization Bureau of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York, under Immigration and Naturalization file 2271-350451, disclosed that although subject filed a declaration of intention on April 25, 1939 and later filed a petition for naturalization, his petition had been dismissed on May 14, 1946 for "lack of prosecution" which means that he failed to appear in court for the hearing on his naturalization petition. The clerk on duty stated that the subject would now not be able to obtain citizenship under the petition he has filed.

Subject's naturalization file contains certificate of arrival No. 2607701 of the U.S. Labor Department which indicated that he arrived at New York August 4, 1923 aboard the SS NIEUW AMSTERDAM; that his wife is GEORGETTE and that he was married on September 27, 1916 in New York City. Further that his wife was born at Strassbourg, France on June 30, 1896. She entered New York November 13, 1912.

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A son, [REDACTED]
a daughter [REDACTED]

Subject's file further reflected that he left New York August 11, 1932 on the SS BALLIN and arrived back in the United States at New York in August 1933 on the GRIPSHOLM. Witnesses to his petition were JOHN ASSEL, Assistant Organizer, 5009 Broadway, New York City and HYMAN N. GLICKSTEIN, an attorney, 166 Second Avenue, New York.

It appears from the above that subject is still a German citizen.

Subject's selective service file at Local Board 271 reflects that he is a member of the white race. It also reflects that subject was born in Munich, Germany November 13, 1892.

The records of the Marriage License Bureau, City Hall, Manhattan, under License 26640 dated September 27, 1916, reflected subject, of 216 East 32nd Street, a waiter, was born in Munich, Germany; that

NY 100-57744

~~ROBERT M. K.~~
his father, HANS and his mother, ANNA SCHWAIGER, were also born in Germany; that subject was aged 24 and it was his first marriage.

The same records reflect that the bride, GEORGETTE B. VILEUR of 150 East 33 Street, a nurse, was born in Strassbourg, Germany, was twenty years of age and was marrying for the first time. Her father was JULES and her mother was JULIE STEGNER, both of whom were born in Germany. It should be noted that the marriage occurred on September 27, 1916.

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On January 8, 1946 informant [] advised that on the same date ROSE WORTIS, prominent Communist, told JOHN STEUBEN, of the HOTEL & RESTAURANT EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE, A. F. of L., that she wanted STEUBEN to speak to NIKE (believed identical with subject) about the allocation of funds for Jewish relief. The same informant advised that subject was referred to casually in a conversation between MARTIN YOUNG, of the TWU and JOHN STEUBEN, of the New York State CP on August 21, 1945.

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Confidential informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that subject was on the speaker's platform at a JAFRC dinner at the Hotel Roosevelt on September 28, 1943 and was a speaker at a forum at the Hotel Commodore February 13, 1943 on the "role of Japanese Americans in the Victory Program" sponsored by the Japanese American Committee for Democracy and the American Committee for Protection of the Foreign Born.

In the World Telegram of March 21, 1944 FREDERICK DOLTMAN quotes TIM HOLMES, former Communist Party negro functionary as stating that subject is an A. F. of L. union leader in the Hotel and Restaurant Joint Board who is in the Communist Party inner circles.

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Confidential informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, furnished an affidavit by MANNING JOHNSON, president of Bartenders and Restaurant Employees Union, Local 386, A. F. of L., of 308 Lenox Avenue, NYC in which JOHNSON stated that he, JOHNSON, was a former member of the Central Committee of the CP. MANNING JOHNSON also said that subject was a delegate to CP conventions for many years, worked for several years for the CP in Russia, speaks several languages and is a consultant on all subversive activities in the culinary industry and further that he is an official of the Hotel and Club Employees Local 6.

NY 100-57744

Subject was listed as a speaker at the funeral of KURT ROSENFELD, of the German American Conference on September 28, 1943 which was characterized by two friends of Dr. ROSENFELD as the "greatest Stalinist rally of German Communists which has ever taken place in the U.S.".

The "Hotel and Club Voice" of March 2, 1946 reflects that subject was the opening speaker at a conference sponsored by the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unions at Local 6 headquarters on Sunday, February 24, 1946. Subject was listed as a trade union advisor of the JAFRC in September, 1944.

Subject is considered dangerous to the Internal Security of the country because he holds an important position in the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union and has been very active in numerous Communist front organizations and has been alleged to have been active in the Communist Party while in Russia.

- P E N D I N G -

NY 100-57744

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

NEW YORK

AT NEW YORK - Will follow and report on Communist activities of the subject.

NY 100-57744

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

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The confidential informant mentioned in the report of
Special Agent [redacted] dated at New York July 29, 1946
is [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau.

SAC, New York

January 24, 1947

Director - FBI

⁰
MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIR, with aliases
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
New York File #100-57744

Reference is made to the Bureau's memorandum of July 17, 1946.

An examination of the Bureau files does not reflect that there has been received from you the summary report that has been requested. It is suggested that you give this matter your attention at an early date.

100-96104

RECORDED

100-96104 32
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Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

JEM:MIF

REPORT
of the



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON D. C.

To: SAC, New York

December 27, 1946

There follows the report of the FBI Laboratory on the examination requested by your office on November 26, 1946.

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

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Re: [redacted] with aliases
[redacted], with aliases; et al;
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

YOUR FILE NO.
FBI FILE NO.
LAB. NO.

100-52255
100-230459-424
D-59951 20

Examination requested by: New York

Reference: Letter dated November 26, 1946

Examination requested: Document

INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 04-19-2006 BY 60308/AUG

request to compare the specimens of MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER's (Bureau file 100-96104) handwriting with the handwriting in the above matter and similar cases.

LABORATORY EXAMINATION:

RECORDED

100-96104 33

It was concluded that the handwritten secret ink message previously examined by the Laboratory in connection with the above-captioned case and the [redacted] case, Bureau file [redacted] were not prepared by Michael John Obermeier.

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It was further concluded that the secret ink messages previously examined in connection with the [redacted] case, Bureau file [redacted] which are interspersed with English words and phrases were not prepared by Obermeier. However, a definite conclusion could not be reached as to whether any of the secret ink messages which are interspersed with Spanish and Russian words and phrases were prepared by Obermeier because the writings are not comparable.

Tolson _____
E. A. Tamm _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Carson _____
Egan _____
Gurnea _____
Harbo _____
Hendon _____
Pennington _____
Quinn Tamm _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

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Known handwriting of Obermeier is contained in the National Security file and is also a portion of Serial 14 of a case entitled Michael John Obermeier, with aliases, Internal Security - R, Bureau file 100-96104. The handwriting was submitted by your office with a cover letter dated August 2, 1944.

1-Laboratory

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. **100-25990**

MD

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 2/14/47	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 11/25, 26, 27; 12/10, 12, 18/46; 1/6, 7/47	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>
TITLE CHANGED GERMAN AMERICAN LABOR COUNCIL, aka: Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists, German American Trade Union Committee			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

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b7C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject organization presently maintaining offices at 303 8th Avenue, New York City. Names of officers set out. Promising continued struggle to "wipe out last vestiges of Nazism in Germany and in this country". German American Labor Council, through letters to President TRUMAN and articles appearing in the "German American", protests labor policies of present administration as well as alleged failure to implement Potsdam decision. GUSTAV FABER, Secretary of German American Labor Council calls for mass movement in defense of GERHART EISLER.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 04-19-2006 BY 60309/AUC
TAM/DGG/CK

- P -

REFERENCES:

Bureau file 100-96104.
Report of Special Agent New York,
1/31/46.

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b7C

DETAILS:

The following investigation in this case was conducted by Special Employee

The title of this case is being changed so as to reflect the new name adopted by subject organization at a meeting of its Executive Board held on June 6, 1946 in New York City. It is noted that the change of name was announced in an article appearing in the June 15, 1946 issue of the "German American", a semi-monthly periodical published in New York City which serves as the official mouthpiece of subject organization.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Edward Scheidt</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
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b7C

See pg 12, para 4 and pg 13 para 1 bracketed portions
Re FOI PA # 88,905

18

MAR 17

P44

2-28-47 RUP

LOCATION AND OFFICERS

Subject organization at present maintains its headquarters at 303 8th Avenue, New York City, having recently moved from its former location at 144 Bleaker Street, New York City.

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b7D On December 18, 1946 Confidential Informant [] advised that MICHAEL OBERMEIER is still Chairman of the organization, that GUSTAV FABER is Secretary, and LEO BEISSEL is Treasurer. It is noted that GUSTAV FABER has previously been reported as being Secretary-Treasurer of Local 100, Transport Workers Union, CIO and editor of the German language newspaper, the "German-American."

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b7D The New York files reflect that MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER who is Chairman of Local 6, Hotel and Club Employees Union, AFofL, has been reported as one of the AFofL leaders in the Communist Party inner circle. LEO BEISSEL, according to Confidential Informant [] is an "inconsequential mediocre old man" who is thoroughly incapable of making any decision of his own and confines his activities to more or less clerical work, such as keeping the organization's books and preparing the annual financial statements.

ACTIVITIES

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b7D Confidential Informant [] on March 20, 1946 advised that on February 24, 1946 he attended a meeting at 710 8th Avenue, New York City entitled, "Stop Bundist Activities", which meeting was held under the auspices of subject organization. This informant further advised that he considered this to be a "one hundred percent Communist inspired meeting".

The informant stated that WILLIAM P. DODD, JR. known to him as a fellow traveler, was Chairman of this meeting. He further advised that DODD had been an instructor at the Jefferson School of Social Sciences in New York City during the winter term of 1945.

Another speaker at this meeting, according to the informant, was ALBERT E. KAHN, author of "The Great Conspiracy" and other books, and who was elected to the constitution of the committee of the New York State Communist Party on September 21, 22, 1945.

The informant related that GUSTAV FABER was one of the speakers and that his speech consisted chiefly of an effort to gain support for the newspaper, "German-American," a bi-monthly German language publication appearing in New York City edited by GUSTAV FABER.

It is noted that the "German-American" serves as the official organ of subject organization and that every issue of this newspaper contains a special page entitled, "The Union Spotlight - Sponsored by the German American Labor Council".

NY 100-25590

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On May 31, 1946 Confidential Informant [] furnished a pamphlet entitled, "Stop Bundist Activities". It has been noted that this pamphlet was published by subject organization and that it contains excerpts from the various addresses delivered at the aforementioned February 24, 1946 rally. According to this pamphlet FABER, in the course of his address, made the following remarks: "As trade unionists of German descent, it has always been our special obligation to fight Nazism and bundist activities and this obligation has not ceased with the end of the war. The sacrifices made by our people and the peoples of our allies must not have been in vain. We cannot permit our troops to be used to re-establish German reactionaries in industry in power. We cannot permit American soldiers to block the full de-nazification or hinder the development of democracy in Germany. We must be alert to the attempts to salvage the old German war nation and to create a reservoir and aggression against the Soviet Union in the western zones of Germany. It would be most harmful for the American people not to keep close watch on the actions of our occupation forces in Germany and the policies of the brass hats".

The March 2, 1946 issue of the "Hotel and Club Voice", organ of Local 6, Hotel and Club Employees Union, AFofL, contained an article entitled, "German American Unionists urge fight on Bund". It was noted that this article contains a detailed account of the aforementioned meeting. This article reflects that the meeting was attended by twenty-four CIO and twenty-one AFofL unions in addition to numerous German American Fraternal and Community Groups. The article also reflects that the meeting adopted a number of resolutions, one of which called upon the State and War Departments to publish the list of Nazis in the United States, which list had been obtained in Germany by the Army. Another resolution urged the American labor movement to give all possible aid to German workers for the formation of one united German trade union movement. The meeting, according to this article, finally agreed on a message to German workers urging the Communist and Social Democrats to form into one strong workers party as a means of preventing the resurrection of fascism in Germany.

The German American issue of February 1, 1946 in an article entitled, "The German American Delegate Joins Appeal for Prominent FEPC", disclosed that LEO BEISSEL, Treasurer of subject organization, had been chosen to represent the German American Trade Union Committee at a delegation of six hundred "peoples' representatives" in support of a prominent fair employment practices committee. This delegation, according to the article, on January 17, 1946 proceeded to Washington, D.C. where they will contact various members of congressional committees involved in the passage of such bill.

The German American issue of June 1, 1946 contained the full text of a message to President TRUMAN appearing over the signature of GUSTAV FABER which reads as follows:

NY 100-25590

"Harry S. Truman, President
White House, Washington, D.C.

"In the name of the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists, we protest against your action inciting Congress to pass anti-labor and strike breaking legislature. We clearly recall the disrupting influences of similar legislation passed in German shortly before Hitler's ascent to power and in France before Hitler's invasion.

"Such recourses are not in lieu with the policies of Franklin Delano Roosevelt whose program had our full support.

Gustav Faber, Secretary
Victory Committee of
German American Trade Unionists. "

A second message which was addressed to the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen in Cleveland, Ohio, appeared in the same issue of the "German-American" and read as follows:

"In the name of the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists I extend to you fraternal greetings and wish to express our wholehearted support of the just demands for improved working conditions.

Gustav Faber, Secretary
Victory Committee of
German American Trade Unionists."

The July 1, 1946 issue of the "German-American" featured an article entitled, "Realization of Potsdam Essential to Peace". A review of this article reflected that it consisted of an appeal by subject organization to the readers of the "German-American" urging them to sign a petition addressed to President TRUMAN and being circularized by the "Win the Peace Committee". It is noted that this committee was formed in the Spring of 1946 as a result of a National Win the Peace Conference and it maintains headquarters at 1309 14th Street, Washington, D.C. This petition is being set out as follows:

"Harry S. Truman, President
White House, Washington, D.C.

"Last January 26th the American people were heartened to learn that you, together with Prime Minister Atlee and Premier Stalin had reached an agreement in Potsdam on a common policy for the complete eradication of the last vestiges of German Fascism.

NY 100-25590

"Since that time American correspondents have reported that failure to implement that policy has caused denazification to lag in the American and British zones. Upon revival of Nazi Party activities, outbreaks of violence against Jewish displaced persons in Landsberg, the continuance of former Nazis in positions of influence and power and failure to take firm measures against the German trusts and cartels are among the many reported instances of violation of the Potsdam Agreement.

"These de facto violations are the more alarming and the more harmful to the cause of peace because it has recently been heard in this country a number of demands for the complete scrapping of the Potsdam Agreement.

"We, the undersigned citizens of the United States, believe that the prompt and total obliteration of the political and economical basis of war in Germany is vital to the restoration of economy among the great powers and indispensable to enduring peace.

"We therefore most respectfully appeal to you as one of the architects of the Potsdam Agreement, to mark this the first anniversary or its signing with a public declaration that this remains the policy of the United States which will vigorously observe and fully implement its breach to destroy the last remnants of German Fascism."

PRE-ELECTION ACTIVITIES

Page four of the June 1, 1946 issue of the "German-American" contains an article announcing a meeting of the Board of instant organization to be held on June 6, 1946 at the Transport Workers Hall, 153 West 64th Street, New York City.

It has been noted that the agenda of this meeting, according to the announcement, contained the following items:

1. "Report by a German Trade Unionist on Trade Unions in Germany."
2. "Our tasks in the Coming Elections."
3. "Financial Report."
4. "New Business."

An account of what transpired at this meeting was published in the June 15, 1946 issue of the "German-American". In this article it was stated that a very interesting report on Trade Unions in German was given by ADOLF DETER identified in the article as a former German Trade Union man who had applied for permission to return to his homeland in order to help build a new democratic Germany.

Another speaker at this meeting was GUSTAV FABER, Editor of the "German-American", and Secretary of subject organization who made a fervent appeal to all German American Trade Unionists not to stand aside in the forthcoming congressional elections but to "join fully in the drive to help elect a win the peace congress". He further stated that it was the duty of every German American to help prevent a new war in which Germany would probably be the battlefield. FABER concluded his speech by stressing the necessity of rallying all German American workers' organizations and recommended the formation of election committees "where every American of German descent lives or works". In the ensuing discussions it was decided that the committee should call a meeting for the officers of all German American organizations throughout the Eastern states.

The July 1, 1946 issue of the "German-American" on page three contained an article over the signature of GUSTAV FABER entitled, "Let us Elect a Congress that will save the Peace". It has been noted that this article is an invitation to attend a conference to be called in the near future for the purpose of discussing "how we can make the greatest possible contribution towards the election of win the peace candidates". This invitation was addressed to all branches of the Workmens' Benefit Fund, all sections of the Nature Friends of America, all workmens' singing societies, friends of the "German-American", and representatives of those unions with a German American membership.

It is further stated in the article that the following officers of the Workmens' Benefit Fund have agreed to sponsor this conference:

NAT/ALBANESE, Treasurer, branch 398.
HANS EINKENEL, Finance Secretary, branch 59.
CHARLES AUGUSTIN, President, branch 59.
HERBERT HEILBRONNER, Recording Secretary, branch 23.
FRANZ KNOFF, Hudson County District.
LOUIS MERKEL, Hudson County District.
BELLA MAYER, Finance Secretary, branch 92.
WALTER MUELLER, President, branch 10.
JOHN YSEWIN, branch 173.

The July 15, 1946 issue of the "German-American" on page nine, which is the "Spotlight Page" and which is a regularly sponsored feature by subject organization, contains an invitation to an extraordinary functionaries meeting to be held on August 6, 1946 at the Paramount Restaurant, 138 West 43rd Street, New York City. The purpose of this meeting was described as "to plan the participation of German American workers organizations in the coming elections".

This theme is further elaborated on in an article by GUSTAV FABER appearing on the same page under the head, "Our organizations are menaced". In this article FABER stated that an anti-labor drive is now underway threatening labor's gains and present position. He then goes on to say "If we do not act now we will have to carry the burden of responsibility which now rests upon the German workers for not having stopped Hitler and the misery he brought upon the world. Let us, therefore, act jointly and forcefully; let us all gather in the pre-election conference called by the German American Labor Council and work out plans for our maximum participation in the election campaign".

The "Union Spotlight Page" in the August 1, 1946 issue of the "German-American" features brief statements by German American Union Functionaries joining their full support for the forthcoming German American Labor Conference. The names of these Union Functionaries are being set out as follows:

JOHN KENDL, Organizer, Bakers and Confectioners Workers Union,
No. 1, AFofL.
CARL SCHUTT, Business Agent. Local 6, Hotel and Club Workers
Union, AFofL.
PHILLIP JONES, 10th assembly district, American Labor Party.
CHRISTIAN BLOHM, Workmens' Benefit Fund.

There is also contained on this page an additional list of sponsors of the forthcoming German American Labor Conference. This list contains the following names:

Doctor J. AUSLAENDER.
ANTON WODERS, Bakers Union, No. 164.
CARL LUMNITZ, Nature Friends, Local, New York.
Doctor H. MARGULIES
MAX THUMANN, Workers Educational Association.
MAX BEDACHT, IWO.
TRUDY DAMASK, American Labor Party, Ridgewood.
FRED KAISER, Workers' Singing Societies.
EDWARD SCHWUCHOW, Local 2155, United Brotherhood of
Carpenters and Joiners of America.
FRED WIELAND, Local 17, Bakers and Confectioners Workers
International Union.

A review of the "Union Spotlight Page" of the August 15, 1946 issue of the "German-American" reflected that the main article in this issue is headed, "How will your neighbor vote?", which is an appeal to German Americans to work untiringly for the election of win the peace candidates. The article offers a number of detailed suggestions for electioneering. Among the recommendations made in this article are the following:

Street meetings with appropriate speakers explaining the election issues and the various candidates' stand on German matters; leaflets in the German language; the setting up of election information centers "equipped to advise voters on problems such as food package service to Germany"; free distribution of the "German-American", "the only German language paper which has continuously stood for democratic policies here and in Germany". The article ends by stating, "German Americans can be won if the issues are presented squarely to them. It will be hard to counteract the propaganda of reactionaries who are fishing for German votes at great expense but it can be done and it will pay off at the election of win the peace candidates".

A review of the September 15, 1946 issue of the "German-American" reflects that this issue contains an article entitled, "German Union Functionaries Map out Election Campaign". It has been noted that this article consists of a report on a meeting held on August 15, 1946 under the sponsorship of subject organization at the Paramount Restaurant in New York City and attended by one hundred functionaries of German American organizations and labor unions.

According to this article, ERIC SAENGER, Activities Director of the Friends of the German American, in his address, compared the present situation in America with conditions in Germany prior to Hitler's ascent to power and warned that the general trend of the administration and of Congress is leading towards reaction and Fascism.

Other speakers at the meeting were CHARLES COLLINS, Negro Candidate for State Senator, Congressman JOSEPH CLARK BALDWIN, and a representative of the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions. The main address was given by GUSTAV FABER who in his speech, asserted that "today this country needs a change in its Congress more than ever before because Congress holds the key to either a peaceful development, full employment and stable prices or to inflation, economic crises and new war". FABER then introduced a resolution which was unanimously adopted and which called all voters of German descent to cast their votes in favor of those candidates "who have shown that they are really fighting for the interest of the common people; that they are not influenced by the lobbies of the big financial interests and that they are defenders of economic social harvest and of democratic rights and civil liberties, enemies of all discrimination because of race, color, or creed, enemies of all attempts to curtail the rights of labor and trade unions, and that they stand for a foreign policy of understanding and friendship with other nations".

The "Union Spotlight Page" in the September 15, 1946 issue of the "German-American" carries an article reminding the readers of their duty to register in order to defeat reaction in November. This page also features an

article by GUSTAV FABER entitled, "Defeat Reaction in New York" in which it is stated that the Republican Party has become the rallying point for all reactionaries in the country and should be defeated in the forthcoming congressional elections. FABER, in this article, also stated that "the only program which goes straight to the roots of the present difficulties facing the American people is the program presented by the American Labor Party".

The "Union Spotlight Page" in the October 1, 1946 issue of the "German-American" features an article entitled, "German American Labor Council Prepares for Elections". This article reveals that on September 24, 1946 the German American Labor Council conducted a meeting at the Transport Workers Hall, 153 West 64th Street, New York City. The article further reflects that the purpose of this meeting was the drawing up of plans for the mobilization of liberal German American voters in the forthcoming elections. As a first step in this direction, the meeting decided to set up a Speakers Bureau to serve community organizations and trade unionists with speakers prepared to discuss special problems of particular interest to German American voters. Some of the topics mentioned in this connection were, "American Policies in Germany", and "Wallace's resignation and Brynes' Stuttgart Speech". The article further reflects that it was decided at the meeting that the forthcoming October 15, 1946 issue of the "German-American" should be fully utilized in the election campaign by all organizations affiliated with the German American. The members of these organizations were urged to distribute this issue freely at all their public meetings and private meetings and in canvassing the German American communities. The delegates were also urged to contribute and collect funds to make this special election issue possible.

The same page of this issue of the "German-American" contains an article reflecting that a group of German American members of Bakers Union Local No. 1 and of the Workmens' Educational Association had met to work out plans for their participation in the campaign to return Congressman VITO MARCANTONIO to Congress. This committee was said in the article to have decided upon further meetings to be held at the Yorkville Campaign Headquarters of the American Labor Party at 226 East 86th Street, New York City.

The October 15, 1946 issue of the "German-American" on its Union Spotlight Page featured an article by Representative VITO MARCANTONIO entitled, "The German People and Peace". In this article MARCANTONIO severely criticized the State and War Departments' policies in Germany, which he described as dangerous and not in the best interest of a durable world peace. He took particular exception to the fact that "In our zone of occupation the industrialists, Junkers and their satellites, the same people who brought Hitler into power,

receive preferential treatment". He further states in this article that Senators TAFT, VANDENBERG, and WHEELER more or less openly want and prepare for a war against the Soviet Union, a war which if permitted to materialize, would be fought on German soil and would thus mean the complete destruction of Germany. In concluding, MARCANTONIO asserted that only by voting for progressive and labor candidates can this war be averted and "Can our country be brought back to the road of peace as chartered by President Roosevelt?"

It has been noted that the same page of this issue of the "German-American" contains an article by PAUL SCHUR, Secretary-Treasurer, San Francisco CIO Council. The writer of the article states in essence that only those candidates are deserving of support who give satisfactory answers to the following vital questions: "How can we achieve lasting peace in the United States? How can we gain economic security for every American? How can we establish real democratic security in our country?" Furthermore, the writer of this article asserts that a start must be made now to organize a third party which can be depended upon for more concrete answers to questions all Americans face; this party to be a party of "wage earners, small farmers, small businessmen, and professional people". The article ends by declaring that the permanent answer to these questions can not be found within our present economic system but only after the establishment of socialism in this country.

On the same page there appeared an article entitled, "German American Labor Council Recommends Candidates". It has been noted that this article contains a list of candidates recommended for election as well as the names of candidates labeled "candidates to be defeated". The first list consists of a number of American Labor Party candidates while those "to be defeated" include ARTHUR VANDENBERG, JOHN BRICKER, and THOMAS E. DEWEY.

On November 1, 1946 there appeared on the Union Spotlight Page of the "German-American" an article by ERIC R. SAENGER, Activities Director of subject organization entitled, "At the Crossroads". The thesis developed in this article is that the forces of reaction in this country have launched an all out attack on labor and political liberalism and that this attack has resulted in a temporary victory over the American people. Only by defeating these forces of reaction in the forthcoming congressional elections and by voting for progressive candidates everywhere can "peace and freedom, happiness and prosperity for all" be restored.

GERMAN AMERICAN LABOR COUNCIL PROTESTS "RED BAITING" AND LABOR INJUNCTIONS

A review of the November 15, 1946, December 1, 1946 and December 15, 1946 issues of the "German-American" reflects that all of these issues contain considerable comment on the outcome of the congressional elections. No such comments appear in that section of the paper which is sponsored

by the German American Labor Council. Instead, the Union Spotlight Page following the elections, drew its attention to such matters as, "The CIO Confers at Atlantic City" (December 1, 1946 issue), "Return of the Injunction Era"(December 1, 1946 issue), "Wage Increase or Bust"(December 15, 1946 issue).

Commenting on the CIO Conference in Atlantic City, GUSTAV FABER writing in the December 1, 1946 issue asserted that the foes of labor had failed in their attempt to undermine the unity within the ranks of the CIO delegates in Atlantic City. This unity, FABER continues, "was fully demonstrated by the delegates by their voting unanimously for the statement of policies though it includes a clause stating that the CIO 'resents and rejects efforts of the Communist Party and other parties for their adherence to interfere in the affairs of the CIO', a motion of the CIO which is clearly an unwarranted bit of red baiting".

On the Union Spotlight Page of the same issue of the "German-American", there appeared an unsigned article entitled, "Return of the Injunction Era" referring to the recent coal miners strike. After stating that all the miners want is an equitable adjustment of their wages to the rising cost of living, the article continues, "The miners' strike is not a strike against the Government, it is a strike against the coal barons. It is not a strike against the people as our President puts it, it is a strike for the people----if there is such a thing-----because the workers constitute the major part of the people. Strike breaking injunctions were outlawed by the Norris-LaGuardia Act. While the legal battle around this question is just taking place, the miners are acting on their own initiative and staying away from their pits. They know what this is all about. If we stand firmly behind them, they and we all will win."

THE EISLER CASE

The "German-American" issue of November 15, 1946 on its title page featured an "Open Letter to the State Department", which letter appeared over the signature of the "German American Labor Council", Gustav Faber, Secretary". This letter is preceeded by a short paragraph stating that copies of this letter were sent to a large number of individuals and organizations requesting them to join forces in an attempt to secure Eisler's return to Germany from this country. The full text of this letter is set out as follows:

"Department of State
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

"You have seen fit to detain the German anti-fascist refugee Gerhart Eisler in this country against his will, by withdrawing his permission to leave

NY 100-25590

the United States in order to return to Germany. Subsequent to your cancellation of his exit permit, Gerhart Eisler has been subjected to slanderous attacks in our press as a result of which he has been requested to appear before the Wood-Rankin Committee for Un-American Activities.

"We feel that the detention of Mr. Eisler in this country and the treatment accorded to him, is contrary to the interest of the American people regarding the de-nazification of Germany and the preservation of peace, since Mr. Eisler has proven himself to be a staunch anti-fascist who could be invaluable in the rehabilitation of Germany.

"During his stay in our country, Mr. Eisler has done everything in his power to help in our country's war effort. Not only did he act as a blood-donor and an air-raid warden, but he also contributed to 'The German American,' paper, which made a considerable contribution to the de-nazification of German prisoners of war stationed in this country, and helped to rally the German American population of our country behind our war effort.

"In consideration of these facts, we urge you to grant permission to Mr. Eisler to return to Germany at the earliest possible date, so that he can follow his desire to help in the democratization of his native country in the spirit of the Potsdam agreement.

Respectfully yours,
Gustav Faber, Sec'y
German American Labor Council"

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On December 12, 1946 Confidential Informant [] advised that he had attended a public meeting on December 11, 1946 at the Fraternal Club House, 110 West 45th Street, New York City. He further advised that this meeting was sponsored by the newspaper, the "German-American" for the purpose of affording GERHART EISLER an opportunity to answer charges made against him to the effect that he is a Comintern agent and secret boss of the Communist Party in the United States. U

It is noted that subject organization is not officially listed as the sponsor of this meeting, however, in view of the fact that GUSTAV FABER holds the dual position of editor of the "German-American" and Secretary of subject organization and that he was one of the speakers at this meeting, the following information is being set out relative to the meeting:

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According to Confidential Informant [] this meeting was attended by about five hundred persons among whom the informant noted GUSTAV FABER, MARGARET ADLER, Secretary of the German American and reported to be a member of the New York City Communist Party Hermann Bettscher Club, WALTER MUELLER,

NY 100-25590

Vice-President of the Workmens' Benefit Fund, Doctor BOENHEIM, former president of the now defunct German American Emergency Conference, and ALBERT SCHREINER, former member of the Council for German Democracy, which organization has recently disbanded.

The informant related that the meeting was presided over by ABRAHAM J. ISSERMANN, counsel of the Civil Rights Congress who charged that the Government's suspension of EISLER's exit permit was part of a "plot to prevent the de-nazification of Germany". The speakers, according to the informant, were GERHART EISLER, CAROL KING, EISLER's attorney, DOROTHY LANGSTON, who spoke for the "Justice and Freeport Committee; JACK BJOZE, Secretary of the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, and GUSTAV FABER.

According to this informant, FABER, in his speech, stressed EISLER's "untiring efforts in the struggle against nazism and in support of our war effort". He further stated that EISLER's case was only part of the reactionary campaign against the forces of liberalism. In continuing, FABER called for a mass protest movement against EISLER's continued "detention" in this country.

On December 11, 1946 Special Agent [redacted] contacted Confidential Informants [redacted] with negative results concerning subject organization.

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- P E N D I N G -

NY 100-25590

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

NEW YORK

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

organization. Will follow and report all activities of subject

NY 100-25590

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The following Confidential Informants were mentioned in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated February 14, 1947 at New York, New York:

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[redacted]

[redacted]
[redacted] whose identity is being concealed at his own request.

[redacted]

[redacted] New York City Police Department, Public Relations Bureau, 400 Broom Street, New York City, whose identity is being concealed in view of his position.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 04-19-2006 BY 60309/AUC

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, was.
SECURITY MATTER - C
Bureau file 100-96104

DATE: March 27, 1947

TAM/DCG/CAK

4-3-47

Reference is made to Bureau letter of January 24, 1947. The summary requested therein will be prepared at an early date.

From a review of the subject's file, it does not appear that he is of sufficient importance in Communist activities to warrant retaining his name on the Key Figure List and accordingly it is being deleted. While it is true he is a Communist of long standing, his activity seems to be confined to German Front activities and to activities within the Hotel and Restaurant Workers, an A.F. of L. union in New York City, rather than in the Party itself. Neither phase of his activities appears to render him of sufficient potential dangerousness to be classified as a Key Figure.

Further reports concerning him will be submitted under the Security Matter classification. The Security Index card on the subject is being retained.

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CITY OF NEW YORK.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

April, 17, 1947.

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DATE 04-19-2006 Dear Mr. Edgar Hoover;
TAM/DCG/CAK

Chief Executive of F.B.I.

We the members of Waiters, Union Local 6.44. St. and 8th, Ave. N.Y.C. Demand -
that, you investigate at once, all the leaders of this Union. Because they-
are all Communists. the President, Michael Obermeier is the biggest Labor-
Rackeeter in the World.

He went to Russia in 1934. and when he came back, with the help of
the wagners law, he enslaved 50. thousands, Hotel Workers. he brought back-
from Russia. the so called check off system; this means they collecte the
dues from our pay, without our consent. (it is Communistic). and it is uname-
rican; if the Government forbid the check off system.

This Rackeeter Union would die at once, because nobody would ~~pay~~
pay dues any more, Before and now, they collect money for the Communists, if
any body, do not give or donot agree with the Communisto, they threaten us-
to expell from the Union. and to lose our jobs; Right here in the Union,
they have Schools and teach (Communism). And how to overthrow our Govern-
ment.

? Please Mr. Hoover,? (trust Us), Because we do not dare, to sign our
names, they might kill us, because these Skunks stop at nothing; they have
expelled thausand of members from the Union, and they cannot Work in the -
Hotels, any more,; Because they do not believe in Communism, yes, a few -
months ago, we Read in the news Paper, that the Goverment arrested a Rat Com-
munist, by the name (Eisler) We saw him many times, in the Union, But we-
did not know, who he was,.

Now we found , out that, he was on the Pay Roll; to teach the me-
mbers, Communism, they a News Paper, here, which is more Raison than the -
Daily Worker, .we hope that you will understand this letter, because it is
not a letter, but to give you an idea,, and if you investigate, you will-
find plenty.

Respectfully yours.

G. I. R. -5

Members by Force, -----

(Local Union 6. 44, St. and 8. ave. N.Y.C.)
@@

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&
INDEXED

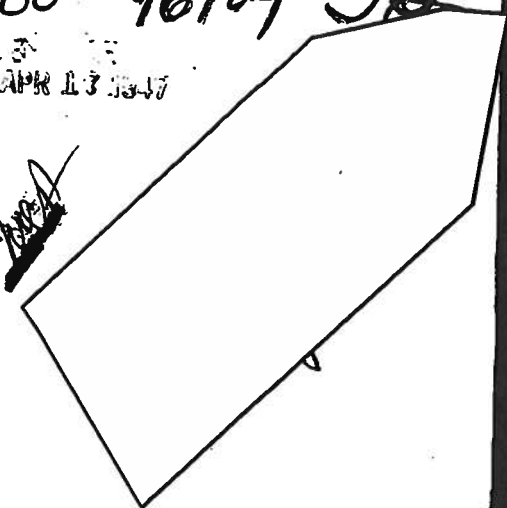
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EX-1

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[Handwritten signature]



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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: May 1, 1947

FROM : *es to* SAC, New York

SUBJECT:

MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, was.
SECURITY MATTER - C
(Bureau file 100-96104)ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 04-19-2006 BY 60309/AUC
TAM/DCG/CAK

Reference is made to my letter of March 21, 1947.

From a review of the file in this matter it appears that the subject is not of sufficient importance to warrant maintaining the case in a pending status. It also appears that the Bureau is cognizant of substantially all significant information concerning the subject.

The summary report mentioned in reference letter is not being submitted. In the event the subject assumes greater importance in the future of course, the matter will be reopened.

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SAC, New York

May 14, 1947

Director, FBI

MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, was.
SECURITY MATTER - C
(100-57744)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 04-19-2006 BY 60309/AUC
TAM/DCG/CAK

For your information the name of the subject is on a list of individuals who are being considered by the Immigration and Naturalization Service as possibly warranting the institution of deportation proceedings. For your additional information the Department considers this to be one of the best cases that it has in this regard and desires that attention be given this matter immediately.

In its memorandum to the Bureau the Department requested that the files be reviewed and previous investigation be brought up to date if necessary relative to the present or fairly recent membership in or activity on behalf of the Communist Party.

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The Bureau files reflect that the last report submitted by your office concerning the activities of the subject is the report of Special Agent [redacted] [redacted], dated August 29, 1946, at New York. The Bureau desires that a new report be submitted by your office immediately, covering the activities of the subject since the date of the last report. The Bureau then requests that you submit immediately a summary report setting forth by witnesses only legally admissible evidence tending to prove the subject's membership in or affiliation with the Communist Party and evidence tending to show his knowledge of the revolutionary character of that organization.

You should give this matter your attention immediately.

100-96104

JEM:mjp

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100-96104-38

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

MAY 15 1947

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[Handwritten signature]

Mr. H. Graham Morison
Executive Assistant to the Attorney General
Director, FBI

May 14, 1947

MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, was.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 04-19-2006 BY 60309/AUC
TAM/DCG/CAK

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Reference is made to the memorandum of May 2, 1947, from Messrs. [redacted] to you wherein there were listed a number of names of individuals being considered by the Immigration and Naturalization Service as possibly warranting the institution or pressing of deportation proceedings.

The name of the captioned subject appeared as number two on this list. For your information copies of all of the reports that have been submitted in this case have been forwarded to the Division of Records with the exception of the following:

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Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated June 30, 1943, at New York, New York, entitled "Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists; German American Council of Trade Unionists; Michael J. Obermeier - Internal Security (C)."

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 18, 1944, at New York, New York, entitled "Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists; German American Council of Trade Unionists; Michael John Obermeier, with alias, Michael J. Obermeier - Internal Security - (C)."

Copies of these latter reports are attached. You will be advised at a later date of the identity of witnesses who will be available to testify for the government in connection with any proceedings taken against Obermeier.

100-96104

Attachment

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Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

MAY 15 1947

100-96104-39

JEM:WJS

URGENT

G.I.R. 5

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED MAY 27, 1947

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 04-19-2006 BY 60309/AUC SAC, NEW YORK

TAM/DCG/CAR

MICHAEL JOHN O'NEIMEIER, WA. SECURITY MATTER - C. REFULET MAY FOURTEEN LAST.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS AGAIN REQUESTED THE BUREAU TO GIVE THIS MATTER EXPEDITIOUS AND IMMEDIATE ATTENTION. IN ADDITION TO THE INVESTIGATION REQUESTED IN REFERENCE LETTER YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO CONTACT ALL THE WITNESSES WHO HAD FURNISHED INFORMATION IN THE PAST WHICH WOULD BE OF VALUE IN THE DEPORTATION PROCEEDINGS AND ASCERTAIN IF THEY CAN STILL FURNISH THE SAME INFORMATION AND ANY DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE THEY MAY HAVE WHICH SUPPORTS IT. IN THE EVENT ANY OF THESE WITNESSES OR INFORMANTS OR WITNESSES ARE PRESENTLY FURNISHING NEW INFORMATION OF SUCH VALUE THAT YOU DO NOT BELIEVE IT WOULD BE WISE TO DISCLOSE THEIR IDENTITY AT THE PRESENT TIME, YOU ARE REQUESTED TO ADVISE THE BUREAU. THIS SHOULD BE GIVEN YOUR ATTENTION IMMEDIATELY.

HOOVER

COPIES DESTROYED 5/11/59 #16

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

SPECIAL AGENT OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 27 1947

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. **100-57744**

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE MAY 28 1946	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 5/20-23/47	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>
TITLE MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEYER, was			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C

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SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject still president of Hotel and Club Employees Union, Local 6, AFL, 305 W 44 St., NYC. Has reportedly been on sick leave for 3 months and approaching blindness. Was vice president of Trade Union Committee to Elect Win the War Candidates, supporter of Negro Labor Victory Committee. Alleged member of Communist Party in 1943. Sponsor of Reichstag Fire Trial Anniversary Committee and Spanish Refugee Appeal and was associated with numerous other Communist front groups. Four affidavits made available to NY Office in 9/46 by restaurant workers who allege subject to be a Communist and who allege that revolutionary statements were made within subject's presence by other Communists.

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APPROVED _____
RE _____
REPLY _____
BY _____

REFERENCE: Bureau file 100-96104.
Report of Special Agent New York 7/29/46.
Bureau letter 5/14/47.

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DETAILS:

Confidential Informant advised Special Agent on May 7, 1947 that subject was still President of Local 6 of the Hotel and Club Employees Union, AFL, 305 West 44th Street, New York City, telephone Circle 6-8323. The informant added that subject had been on sick leave from his job for approximately the previous three months with an unknown illness and furthermore that subject was known to be approaching blindness.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: _____ SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="font-size: 2em; font-family: monospace;">100-96104 41</div>
COPIES DESTROYED _____ COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau 2 San Francisco 3 New York	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 100%; position: relative;"> <div style="position: absolute; top: 10px; right: 10px; font-size: 1.5em;">8</div> <div style="position: absolute; bottom: 10px; left: 10px; font-size: 1.5em;">7</div> </div>

NY 100-57744

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Confidential Informant [] by report of July 27, 1942, advised that subject was a Vice Chairman of the Trade Union Committee to Elect Win The War Candidates, a Communist front organization which, according to informant, was organized pursuant to a decision of the New York State Committee of the Communist Party for the purpose of purging the New York State Legislature and the United States Congress of anti-Communist members, primarily HAMILTON FISH, FREDERIC COUDERT and WILLIAM BARRY. It was also designed to purge any candidate who opposed the second front.

The same informant by report dated October 12, 1942, advised that subject was listed as an active supporter or sponsor of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, a Communist front organization.

In the February 10, 1943 edition of the "New York World Telegram" appeared an article by FREDERICK WOLTMAN which advised that on February 10, 1943, subject was scheduled to speak at a forum entitled "Japanese Americans in the Victory Program" to be held the following Saturday at the Hotel Commodore, New York City. Informant stated that the forum was jointly sponsored by the Japanese American Committee for Democracy and the American Committee for the Protection of the Foreign Born, a Communist front.

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On August 6, 1942, Confidential Informant [] advised that he attended a meeting of the Trade Union Committee to Elect Win the War Candidates at the Pennsylvania Hotel, New York City on Tuesday, August 4, 1942 between 5:00 P.M. and 8:00 P.M. of which meeting MIKE QUILL was Chairman. Speakers were CHARLES COLLINS, a Communist Party member, ADAM C. POWELL, JOSEPH CURRAN, HOPE R. STEVENS, LYNDON HENRY, CLIFFORD McAVOY and VITO MARCANTONIO. Subject sat on the speakers platform along with HEILAN JACK, SAUL MILLS, CHARLES COLLINS and BELLA V. BODD who are proven or suspected Communist Party members.

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On April 19, 1943, Confidential Informant [] advised that subject was a member of the Communist Party but failed to furnish any information as to where this informant had been obtained.

On Page 27 of the "New York Herald Tribune" of December 28, 1943, subject was listed in an advertisement as a sponsor of the Reichstag Fire Trial Anniversary Committee.

NY 100-57744

In a bulletin issued by the "German American Inc.", 305 Broadway, Room 207, New York City in 1944, the original of which is available in the New York Office, subject is listed along with such Communists and fellow travelers as DR. E. K. BARSKY, DR. AMBROGIO BONINI, LION FEUCHTWANGER, DR. ALFRED KANTOROWICZ, ROCKWELL KENT, CLIFFORD McAVOY and JOHANNES STEEL, as a sponsor of the Kurt Rosenfeld Memorial Fund to continue publication of the "German American" believed to be a pro-Communist newspaper.

Subject's name appeared on a letterhead issued in 1944 by the Inter-Faith Committee of the Lower East Side along with such well known Communists and fellow travelers as BEN DAVIS JR., BELLA V. DODD, MICHAEL J. QUILL and LOUIS WEINSTOCK.

In a form letter on the letterhead of the "Negro Freedom Rally", 308 Lenox Avenue, New York City, scheduled for June 26, 1944, subject's name appeared as a member of the Labor Committee of the rally along with such prominent Communists and fellow travelers as FERDINAND O. SMITH, BENJAMIN DAVIS JR., Reverend BEN RICHARDSON, THELMA DALE, Reverend RICHARD MORFORD, VITO MARCANTONIO, PAUL ROBESON and Dr. MAX YERGAN. This form letter is available in the New York Office.

The "Daily Worker" for December 29, 1944, page 9, column 3, carries a news story entitled "Notables Score British Attack on Greece" which states that 50 prominent Americans joined in statement that there is no question of a Communist dictatorship in Greece and that the only threat of dictatorship in Greece is that of a dictatorship imposed from without the country against the expressed will of the Greek people (probably referring to British activities.) Subject's name was among those who joined in the statement along with such Communists and Communist sympathizers as VITO MARCANTONIO, ESTELLE M. STERNBERGER, JOHANNES STEEL, MICHAEL J. QUILL, ABRAHAM FLAXER, IRVING POTASH, LANGSTON HUGHES, HOWARD EAST, DOROTHY BREWSTER, HERMAN SHUMLIN and others.

Confidential Informant [] advised that a reservation was made in the name of the subject at table #35 at a "Tribute to Yugoslavia" dinner at the Biltmore Hotel, New York City on February 7, 1945.

Special Agent [] advised that the speeches at the above dinner were definitely pro-Tito and that a message from TITO was read at the dinner by LOUIS ADAMIC.

NY 100-57744

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Confidential Informant [] furnished this office with a copy of an invitation to a dinner on March 22, 1945 sponsored by the Spanish Refugee Appeal at which LILLIAN HELLMAN, a playwright, was to be guest of honor. The speakers were listed as HERMAN SHUMLIN, LISA SERGIO, CARL VAN DORN and RICHARD WATTS, JR. and DR. EDWARD K. BARSKY. Subject was listed on the program as a sponsor of the dinner along with approximately 125 other persons most of whom are known Communists or Communist sympathizers.

Subject, along with numerous other pro-Communist individuals was listed on the letterhead of the Spanish Refugee Appeal as sponsor of a rally at Madison Square Garden on Monday, September 24, 1945 to salute the Spanish Republican fighters and aid the refugees.

In the March 2, 1946 issue of the "Hotel and Club Voice", the official publication of the Hotel and Club Employees Union, Local 6, there appeared a news story stating that subject, president of Local 6, opened a conference of the Victory Committee of German American Trade Unionists on the previous Sunday. The conference demanded that United States authorities put a stop to the activities of Bundists in this country. One of the other speakers was reported as GERHART EISLER.

In the April 1, 1946 issue of the "World Telegram" there appeared an article by FREDERICK WOLTMAN in which it was stated that subject, a secretary of the New York Joint Board and associated with the State Culinary Alliance is a Communist wheelhorse. It was also stated that in 1930, he was sent as a delegate to the 5th Congress of the Red International of labor unions at Moscow.

On May 20, 1946, a souvenir magazine issued by the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade commemorated the 15th Anniversary of the Spanish Republic was made available to this office. On page 19 of the magazine appeared a statement signed by subject as president of Local 6 of the Hotel and Club Employees Union reading as follows: "Fraternal greetings to those who fought for democracy in Spain in order to protect the liberties of freedom loving people throughout the world."

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Confidential Informant [] on May 6, 1946 reported that the Investigative Committee appointed by the International Hotel and Restaurant Employees Alliance and Bartenders' International League of America, AFL, in New York City, had completed its work as of May 3, 1946 and was working on its report of the findings which would be followed by a report setting out a recommendation made by the Investigative Committee.

NY 100-57744

Confidential Informant [] submitted to this office on May 6, 1946 the minutes of a meeting of the Investigative Committee of the International Hotel and Restaurant Employees Alliance and Bartenders International League of America, AFL, photostatic copies of which are being retained in the files of the New York Office.

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The aforesaid Investigative Committee meeting was held on April 24, 1946 at the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York City and testimony of [], member of Local 325, Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union was taken. [] advised the Committee that he was a former member of the Communist Party and recalled having met subject in Moscow in 1931. He said subject was acting as technical advisor on room design in the construction of the Moscow Hotel.

The following are pertinent portions of the testimony of SPELOTTI:

"Q: What was Mr. Obermeier doing in Russia?

"A: When I met him then he said he was on a special mission. They were going to contract Moscow hotels. He took me over to show me the hotel. While it was under construction he said he was technical advisor and was designing rooms for them...

"Q: Are you a member of the Communist Party?

"A: I was.

"Q: Is Obermeier a Communist?

"A: While I was a member I think he was.

"Q: Is that one of the obligations of the Communist Party that they are supposed to follow the Party line?

"A: I don't know where they stand today. When I was a Party member, (prior to 1930) the Party had an organizational department and this department laid out the activities of Party members in different unions. In each of the different unions we had a Party fraction. All the Party members used to come in meeting and take the line that was given to us by the organizational director of the Party and again in return the instructions would be given to the members of each particular union by the director. The officials in the union used to give the situation in the union and this organizational director used to make policies which policies were brought back to the Party fraction in the Union and we were supposed to carry them through.

NY 100-57744

"Q: These policies given by the instructors were in direct opposition to the Constitution of the AFL?

"A: I can't say that because it seems to me each policy that was given to be carried in the unions was out to gain more power and prestige in that particular union.

"Q: For the Communists?

"A: Yes. They were always to organize more workers, fight for the union in order to distinguish themselves as real leaders, that they are fighting for the benefit of the workers and to bring new members that are in sympathy with the Communist Party.

"Q: In that policy you just outlined, was it predominant? They were definitely told to go out and organize en masse as many people as they could into their respective unions so that they could be outstanding as leaders and be recognized as such and in your opinion be able to control the Communist policy in their union?

"A: Yes, that was the purpose. We used to organize the people and get their initiation fees so that more members would come into the union and we should be distinguished as bringing more people into the union.

"Q: Isn't it the policy of the Communist groups within trade unions to hold fraction meetings and to decide policy that the group is going to take in membership meetings of the union?

"A: Yes, it used to be.

"Q: Were they ever told to run for office--that they must run for office--in order to control that union?

"A: Certainly, that was a must.

"Q: And they exercised those instructions to every extent possible?

"A: Certainly.

NY 100-57744

"Q: In other words the Party picked out certain members and said you must run for different offices irrespective of qualifications?

"A: Certainly. We used to have fights when it came to a meeting that for instance, that particular individual was not fit for that job and will make a failure of the job, but we had to obey and go out, as a matter of fact, and campaign for that particular individual.

"Q: How is it possible for such a small minority group—we will say if there is a group of 250 people and there are 10 Communists in that group—how do these 10 people always manage to dictate the policy of that group?

"A: It is very plain and simple because of the fact that these people, realizing they are a minority, are well equipped with the psychological conditions of each group and they work and study these conditions. They find the weakest points and they do their work on these weak points. It is natural that the masses in our country and in our trade unions today are not union or class conscious and it is very easy to fall into any line given to them that this group is the one to improve their conditions. By giving them a small amount of conditions, they are gaining the confidence of these 250 people. They are distinguished among these groups. They study very hard.

"Q: Were you ever given such instructions while you were a member of the Communist Party?

"A: Such instructions as what?

"Q: To try to put over the policies in your own local union.

"A: If I wouldn't have obeyed, they would have thrown me out of the Party."

Confidential Informant [] also submitted to this office photostatic copies of affidavits of members or ex-members of the above-mentioned international union. These members were formerly members of the Communist Party or the Socialist Workers Party. The affidavits which were made in 1941 are being retained in the files of the New York Office.

The following is the affidavit of []

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NY 100-57744

"STATE OF NEW YORK)
COUNTY OF NEW YORK) SS:

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" [redacted] being duly sworn deposes and says:

[redacted] and have been a member of Waiters & Waitresses Union Local #1, for many years. I was a member of the Communist Party until November 1939.

"The Communist Party was divided into certain industrial units. A unit, or group of Communists of each local union would regularly have weekly meetings for the express purpose of advancing the Communist activities and Communism in the respective locals. Up to November 1939 I was a member of the Party Unit of Local 1 which regularly met every Tuesday afternoon at 131 West 33rd Street, New York City, first floor.

"The following members of Local 1 practically always attended these unit meetings:

LOUIS HIRSCH, member of Board of Local 1

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[redacted] Board member
[redacted] Organization Committee Local 1
[redacted] Organizer
[redacted] member of Board
[redacted] Board member
[redacted] Board member

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[redacted] a Board member of Local 1

"Of this particular unit [redacted] chairman, [redacted] secretary, [redacted] recording secretary, [redacted] education department, [redacted] Daily Worker distributor, [redacted] was considered as the leader in Local 1 for advancement of Communist activities and methods of gaining support for the Communist cause. On many occasions other leaders in the Communist Party and who were leaders in the culinary industry would address us.

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"We were often addressed by [redacted] of Local 89, MIKE OBERMEIER of Local 6, [redacted] of Local 302 and occasionally by [redacted]

NY 100-57744

[redacted] of Local 677 and [redacted] They were all members of the Council of Culinary Workers, a branch of the Communist Party, and regularly had their meetings at 131 West 33rd Street. The chairman of that body was [redacted]

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[redacted] OBERMEIER and [redacted] in their talks to us, spoke about the question of Communism in the locals and how to make progress in the locals in order to obtain members and sympathizers for the Party. They advised us how to collect funds for various causes which were being backed by the Communist Party. [redacted] and MR. OBERMEIER and [redacted] on many occasions discussed with us how to back Communist candidates for office in the local and how to defeat and work against those candidates who were not sympathizers of the Party and who would not work with the Party.

"The aim of the Party was to gain control of the locals by electing as many officials as possible and to determine the policy of the locals so that they controlled jobs, and distributed jobs first to the members of the Communist Party and then have a whip over the heads of those members of the Union who might at some future times work against the Party. The aim was to dominate and control the locals solely for the purpose of advancing the interests of the Communist Party.

"I left the Party in November of 1939 because I objected to the principles of the Communist Party with respect to interfering with the welfare of local unions and to the methods they believed in employing with respect to distribution of work. I also did not find the Communists sincere in labor and I was of the opinion that they were very harmful to labor. Whenever a person is a sympathizer to the Party or a member of the Party and then for any reason works against the Party or leaves the Party, the Party discriminates against him in his employment and if they control the local or have any influence in the local with respect to distribution of work, they make it as difficult as possible for the ex-member or ex-sympathizer to obtain work. Distribution of work and of jobs is one of the greatest weapons of the Communist Party in any local where they have full or partial control.

"Sworn to before me this
15th day of February, 1941.

s/ [redacted]

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NY 100-57744

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The following affidavit was given by [redacted]

"STATE OF NEW YORK)
COUNTY OF NEW YORK) SS:

[redacted] being duly sworn, deposes and says:

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[redacted] and am a
member of Waiters and Waitresses Union, Local No.1.

"Right after I was appointed Secretary of the Contract Committee of Waiters & Waitresses Union, Local No. 1. about March of 1940, I was approached at various times by [redacted] who are also members of Local No. 1, with respect to attending the Workers School. For the next several months on numerous occasions, either in the company of one or more of these four girls, there would be discussed trade unionism and Communism. I had many arguments with them over Communism, but finally, mainly through the insistence of [redacted] I agreed to attend sessions of the Workers School to learn more about trade unionism, and I was assured that Communism had nothing to do with this school.

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"I paid a tuition fee of \$2.50. To the best of my recollection, early in the fall of 1940 I first attended the Workers School on 13th (?) Street, Borough of Manhattan. I attended several classes in the Economics course and at about the fifth class I attended I had acquired a rather definite feeling that the Communists were behind the Workers School. [redacted] attended some of these classes with me. At the fifth session I attended, the following occurred:

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"Our teacher, during the middle of the session stated to the persons present in the classroom: 'We are teaching you people how to act when the time comes to overthrow this government.' At this I became very angry, got up and left the room and never returned to the school. Within ten days after this incident I submitted a statement of what had occurred to the F.B.I.

[redacted] a member of Local No. 1, on several occasions offered to loan me books on Marxism and when I needed certain books in the classes I attended, he volunteered to loan them to me. However, I did not accept his offer and I never did get the books.

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NY 100-57744

"I have made this affidavit voluntarily because I realize that Communism is a menace to the democratic form of government in our country and is also a great danger to trade unionism.

"Sworn to before me this
3rd day of March, 1941

s/ [redacted]

s/ [redacted] (Last name illegible.)"

The following is the affidavit of [redacted]

"STATE OF NEW YORK)
CITY OF NEW YORK)
COUNTY OF NEW YORK) ss:

[redacted] being duly sworn deposes and says:

"I am a member of Waiters & Waitresses Union, Local No.1. I am a former member of the Communist Party. I joined the Communist Party in 1926 and I resigned as a member of the Party about two years ago.

"As a member of Local #1 and as a member of the Communist Party up to the time of my resignation I was likewise a member of the Industrial Branch in Local #1 of the Communist Party known as 11. The industrial branches of the Communist Party have been set up in every local union for the purpose of furthering the interests of the Party.

"Up to the time of my resignation from the Party I attended the fraction meetings of the leading Communists in the culinary industry. At that time the meetings would generally take place at the Headquarters of the Industrial Branch of the Communist Party. The leading Communists in the culinary industry who would attend these meetings, among others, were [redacted] a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, a former teacher in the Workers' School, and now President of Cooks, Pastry Cooks and Assistants Union, Local #89; WILLIAM ALBERTSON, a member of the State Committee of the Communist Party; MIKE OBERMIEIR, delegate to the Communist Party Conventions for many years and official of Hotel & Club Employees Union, Local #6; [redacted] official of Cafeteria Employees Union, Local #302, leader of the Communist Party fraction working in the food industry; [redacted]

NY 100-57744

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"organizer of Waiters & Waitresses Union, Local #1, very active in the Communist organizational activities in the culinary industry and also very active in all of the fractional meetings of the Communists of the Culinary industry, is the leader of the Communist fraction in Waiters & Waitresses Union, Local 1; [redacted] a member of Waiters & Waitresses Union, Local #1 and former official of Local #1; [redacted] now business agent of Cafeteria Employees Union, Local 302; [redacted] general organizer in charge of all Communist activities in the culinary industry who works in collaboration with, and with the association of, [redacted] ROSE WORTIS, who is in charge of the Communist trade activities in New York City; LOUIS HIRSCH, a member of Waiters & Waitresses Union, Local #1, and always very active in Local #1, and regularly attended all fraction meetings of the Communists in the industry.

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"Not very long before I resigned from the Communist Party, [redacted] called a special meeting of certain leaders of the Communist Party, which meeting took place in his office at the Industrial Branch of the Communist Party. Besides myself and [redacted] there were present [redacted] MIKE OBERMIEIR, [redacted] and LOUIS HIRSCH. [redacted] stated in substance that he called us together as the leaders of the Communist Party in the industry and that he had a very important message to convey to us. To the best of my present recollection, the following is what he said, 'We, the leaders of the Communist Party, are not concerning ourselves with organizing on a basis of craftsmanship. We organize on the basis of a bulk to get all the workers in the organization. For one reason, to spread the doctrine of the Communist Party, you must have an audience, and to elect the officials who will take an order from our Party and from our leaders, or who are members of the Party.' As to my activities in the organizing of unemployed and demanding equal distribution of the work through a rotation of the list, he stated that I was doing detrimental work to the Communist Party because the Communist Party does not aim to satisfy the demands of those who are in need. He stated, 'If we satisfy the demands we would defeat our own purpose, which is to bring about social and economic changes by the revolution, which is the aim of the Communist Party.'

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"I openly disagreed with [redacted] at this point. [redacted] then told us that it is our duty in the unions to first give every benefit and preference to the members of the Communist Party and to then try to organize those places where Communists work or where people work who would be inclined to become members of the Communist Party or who were sympathetic to the Party. I again told [redacted] that I as a trade unionist believed first, last and always in the principle that every worker must be treated alike and that there must be a fair and equal distribution

NY 100-57744

"as much as possible, in every local union. [redacted] told me that I was not working against the Party and that I must discontinue activities along such lines. I told him that I did not intend to discontinue my activities and stated that I would think the matter over. [redacted]

[redacted] all told me that they were surprised at the attitude that I was taking and that it was my duty as a member of the Party to follow the instructions of [redacted]. In fact, [redacted] told me that as a member of the Party it was also my duty to take care of the Party members in the union first and that our organizational activities should be confined to obtaining new members for the Party, organizing workers who will be sympathetic to the Party, and that to accomplish this purpose we would have to continue more than ever to distribute among the workers the kind of literature we knew would help us. I then stated that I believed that the local unions should be separate and apart from the Communist Party and that the Communist Party should not use the local unions or the local unions' finances or use the officials of the local unions for the purpose of spreading Communism in the locals.

"A very heated argument resulted because, I can frankly state, none of the persons present believed that I would take the position that I did.

"During these meetings those present, especially [redacted] generally spoke about the slate of officials at election time in the various local unions. They stated that we were not powerful enough to elect outright in all locals Communists. That in many instances it was necessary for us to compromise and to give our support to such members who would cooperate with the Party or who were sympathetic to the Party. They always stated that wherever possible we should try to have officials who are not Communists join the Party.

"I told them that I was opposed to this method and that I disagreed with them. I told them that they would cause a lot of trouble in the industry and especially in the different local unions.

"About a week after this meeting I sent a printed resignation in a Local #1 bulletin, whereby I resigned as a member of the Communist Party and severed my relations with the Party completely.

NY 100-57744

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"The fraction meetings of the leading Communists in the culinary industry would take place at least once every two weeks and generally [redacted]

[redacted] MR. OBERMIEIR, [redacted] AND MR. ALBERTSON would speak at these meetings. They would give their reports as to their Communist activities in their locals or in the industry generally, and the underlying aim of all of these Communists in the industry was to use each local for the purpose of bringing about a social, political and economic revolution in America as the main principle of the Party, and this could be best accomplished by them through controlling the jobs and the security or the economic welfare of the workers in the different industries. At the fraction meetings these people would often discuss the possibilities of some day paralyzing all industry and a great amount of economic activity by controlling the local unions and every industry, and at the proper time calling a general strike of all workers, which would result in turmoil and dissatisfaction and the possibility of a revolution, and thereby accomplish the main aim of the Communist Party.

"For a considerable period of time before I resigned from the Communist Party, the Communist Party, through certain organizations which it controlled would seek contributions from the various local unions. This would be done under the guise of the Lincoln Brigade, peace movements, aid for Spain movements or Spanish war veterans, and at one time they even supposedly aided Father Divine by contributions for organizing the colored people. At our fraction meetings we would discuss how to present the requests for contributions to the Executive Board through the medium of the Communist Party or sympathizers of the Communist Party. We would regularly appear before the local unions and often were successful in obtaining contributions from the locals.

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"A number of good friends of mine who are still members of the Communist Party have on many occasions told me that due to the difficulties that the Party has encountered during recent times, they have been compelled to turn over their Party books to [redacted] who keeps the books locked away. The members of the Party pay their dues to [redacted] and he sees that they are kept in good standing. Members are identified by numbers.

"Many of my friends who are members of the Party told me that they are indirectly compelled to remain members of the Party because the Communist officials in the locals control their livelihood and their jobs. The policy of the Communist officials is to keep a whip over the heads of the members through their office and because they control their jobs.

NY 100-57744

"They have told me that the members of the Party, and especially the leaders and those who hold office in locals, have been repeatedly told that whenever any trouble arises whereby they are accused of being members of the Communist Party, that it is their duty and obligation to deny that they have any connection whatsoever with the Party. Even at the time that I was still a member of the Party and shortly before I resigned, we were being told that whenever necessary we should deny that we were members of the Party.

"Sworn to before me this
24th day of January, 1941

/s/ [redacted]

S: [redacted]

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The following excerpt was taken from the affidavit of
[redacted]

"MIKE OBERMEIER -- delegate to Communist Party Convention for many years, worked for several years for the Communist Party in Russia, speaks several languages, a consultant on all subversive activities in the culinary industry, an official of Hotel and Club Employees Union, Local 6."

In his affidavit, [redacted] referred to one [redacted] as a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, a prominent leader in the culinary industry. He stated further in part as follows:

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[redacted] would make the decisions as to the amounts which were to be deducted from our salaries each week. In arriving at these decisions he would have the support of [redacted] Mr. OBERMEIER (subject), and [redacted] as well as the others were ardent followers of [redacted] and they always supported him in major plans or policies." [redacted] stated in part as follows: "I am willing to testify at any time before Central Trades and Labor Council as to all matters contained in this affidavit and as to many additional matters concerning Communist activities of certain recognized leaders in the culinary industry who are officials of locals of the AFL International."

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that he knows subject by sight but has no information concerning his activities.

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NY 100-57744

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

SAN FRANCISCO

At San Francisco, California

Will interview [redacted]

[redacted] and obtain a signed statement from him containing all information which he has concerning subject's membership in or affiliation with the Communist Party and his knowledge of the revolutionary aims and purposes thereof. Will ascertain whether he would be willing to testify before a deportation hearing against subject in the event that such a hearing were to be held. Will obtain from [redacted] the names of any person he can suggest to be contacted who might be willing to testify concerning the matters mentioned above in relation to the subject. Teletype sent May 28, 1947, setting forth this lead.

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NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will attempt to locate and interview the following persons concerning subject's Communist connections and possible membership in the Party and concerning this knowledge of the revolutionary aims and purposes of the Party:

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

No address

[redacted]

No address available

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Will contact Confidential Informant [redacted] and ascertain if the report prepared by the Investigation Committee of the International Alliance of Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders' International League of America, AFL, contains any additional pertinent information concerning the subject.

NY 100-57744

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of Special Agent [] are as follows; dated MAY 28 1947 :

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[] Brooklyn Local, Joint
Executive Board, [] Local 2,
Waiters & Waitresses Union, Brooklyn, New York.

[] Hotel Biltmore,
New York City.

~~Special Agent LEWIS G. DAVIS.~~

[] Deputy Sheriff, Westchester County,
New York.

SAC, New York

June 10, 1947

Director, FBI

MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, was
Security Matter - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 04-19-2006 BY 60309/AUC
TAM/DCG/CAK

Rereport of SA [redacted] New York City, 5-28-47.

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Your office together with the San Francisco Office is instructed to cover the leads set out in Special Agent [redacted] report immediately and forward the results of this investigation to the Bureau within 7 days after the date of this letter.

cc - San Francisco

100-96104

EX-77

100-96104 4

JEM:an

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CG - 159

JUNE 13, 1947

TO: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

SAC NEW YORK

Transmit the following message to:
URGENT

25440

MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, WAS, SEC MATT C. REBUTEL MAY TWENTYSEVEN
LAST. INVESTIGATION THIS CASE MUST BE COMPLETED AND RESULTS MADE
AVAILABLE TO BUREAU NO LATER THAN JUNE NINE NEXT. IN EVENT
YOU CANNOT COMPLY WITH THIS DEADLINE ADVISE BUREAU REASONS THEREFOR.

HOOVER

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DATE 04-19-2006 BY 60309/AUC
TAM/DCG/CAK

JEM:PEG

See

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100-96104-43
G.I.R.-9

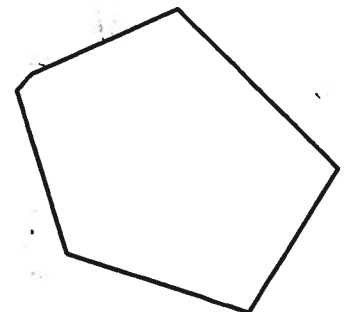
ENCLOSURE

18

COPIES DESTROYED 5/14/59

Q. 10/16

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- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

SENT VIA

M

Per

Office Memorandum

m • UNITED STATES

GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: June 10, 1947

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: GERMAN AMERICAN LABOR COUNCIL, aka: Victory
Committee of German American Trade Unionists,
German American Trade Union Committee
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
Bureau file 100-96104

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 04-19-2006 BY 60309/AUC
TAM/DCG/CAK

Recent issues of the GERMAN AMERICAN, German language Communist publication appearing in New York City which in the past has served as the official organ of subject organization, have failed to disclose any activities on the part of the German American Labor Council.

Reliable informants in close contact with German American Communist front groups have advised that subject organization, although not formally dissolved, in recent months has become dormant, not having called any meetings or otherwise shown any signs of activity. This is being attributed mainly to the fact that GUSTAV FABER, Executive Secretary of this organization and up to last March editor of the GERMAN AMERICAN, has resigned from his position on that paper and generally withdrawn from all activities in behalf of German American organizations.

Another factor contributing to the recent inactivity of the German American Labor Council, according to these informants, is a growing unwillingness on the part of Communist sympathizers to continue their association with organizations that might be suspected of engaging in Communist activities and thus come under the scrutiny of the authorities.

In view of the above facts, no further investigation regarding the captioned organization will be conducted by this office and this case is being considered closed unless specifically advised to the contrary by the Bureau.

WTM:MEV/mmj
100-25590

100-96104-44

52

TKS

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 04-19-2006 BY 60309/AUC
TAM/DCG/CAK FOIPA 1034000

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WASH FROM NEW YORK 26 18 9-38 P

DIRECTOR URGENT

MICHAEL JOHN OBERMEIER, WAS, SM C. REBUTEL JUNE FOURTEEN.

SUMMARY REPORT DICTATED. TYPING TO BE COMPLETED AND REPORT FORWA
TO BUREAU BY JUNE TWENTIETH.

DE-INDEXED.

SCHEIDT

HOLD

DATE

33

1947

100-96104 45

ATTENTION

The following documents appearing in FBI files have been reviewed under the provisions of The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (Title 5, United States Code, Section 552); Privacy Act of 1974 (PA) (Title 5, United States Code, Section 552a); and/or Litigation.

☐ FOIA/PA☐ Litigation☐ Executive Order Applied

Requester: _____

Subject: _____

Computer or Case Identification Number: _____

Title of Case: _____ Section _____

* File _____

Serials Reviewed: _____

Release Location: *File _____ Section _____

This file section has been scanned into the FOIPA Document Processing System (FDPS) prior to National Security Classification review. Please see the documents located in the FDPS for current classification action, if warranted. Direct inquiries about the FDPS to RIDS Service Request Unit,

b6
b7CFile Number: 158-HQ-194 Section 1Serial(s) Reviewed: all

FOIPA Requester: _____

FOIPA Subject: _____

FOIPA Computer Number: 100 3 4000

File Number: _____ Section _____

Serial(s) Reviewed: _____

FOIPA Requester: _____

FOIPA Subject: _____

FOIPA Computer Number: _____

File Number: _____ Section _____

Serial(s) Reviewed: _____

FOIPA Requester: _____

FOIPA Subject: _____

FOIPA Computer Number: _____

THIS FORM IS TO BE MAINTAINED AS THE TOP SERIAL OF THE FILE, BUT NOT SERIALIZED.

SCANNED BY DocLab (RMD)

DATE: 1/30/06

ATTENTION

LAST SERIAL: 5

DO NOT REMOVE FROM FILE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Serial Description ~ COVER SHEET

03/31/1960

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 5

Page 46 ~ b6, b7C

Page 48 ~ b6, b7C

Page 49 ~ b6, b7C

Page 53 ~ b6, b7C

Page 54 ~ b6, b7C

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X Deleted Page(s) X
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1 - [redacted]

b6
b7C

Assistant Attorney General
J. Walter Yeagley

March 31, 1960

Director, FBI

REC-9

**MICHAEL OBERMEYER
ANASTASSIOS TSAKIRIS
LABOR-MANAGEMENT REPORTING AND
DISCLOSURE ACT OF 1959**

b6
b7C

Reference is made to your letter dated
March 22, 1960.

FBI files 100-253223, 100-396355, 100-96104
and 100-359282, which were cited in your letter, appear
to relate to these individuals based on the information
furnished. FBI files fail to indicate that these
individuals have held Communist Party membership
within the last five years. FBI files disclose that
a Michael Obermeier, who may be identical with the
Michael Obermeyer mentioned in your letter, was
deported from the United States in 1952.

The New York Office of the FBI has been
instructed to interview Spiridon J. Aniphandis
to obtain any specific information in his possession
pertaining to Communist Party activities on the part
of the individuals named in your letter. The results
of the interview with Aniphandis will be furnished to
the Department.

2 - New York (Enclosures - 2)
ATTENTION, SAC, NEW YORK

Enclosed are two copies of referenced Department
letter. Interview Spiridon J. Aniphandis, 30-15 81st Street,
Jackson Heights, New York, for all information indicating
the individuals named in the enclosed letter are in
violation of Section 504 of this act. Bufiles contain
no information concerning Aniphandis. The results
of your interview with Aniphandis should be submitted
within two weeks from the receipt of this letter.

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

ECP:bgs
(6)

Tolson _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Belmont _____
Callahan _____
DeLoach _____
Malone _____
McGuire _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Trotter _____
W.C. Sullivan _____
Tele. Room _____
Ingram _____
Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Letter to J. Walter Yeagley
RE:

**MICHAEL OBERMEYER
ANASTASSIOS TSAKIRIS**

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NOTE ON YELLOW:

No investigation had been conducted regarding captioned individuals for various periods in excess of six years. Reports submitted on these individuals previously have been disseminated to the Department.

Tolson _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Belmont _____
Callahan _____
DeLoach _____
Malone _____
McGuire _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Trotter _____
W.C. Sullivan _____
Tele. Room _____
Ingram _____
Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

- 2 -

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: March 22, 1960

J. Walter Yeagley
 : Assistant Attorney General
 Internal Security Division

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

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MICHAEL OBERMEYER
 ANASTASSIOS TSAKIRIS
 LABOR-MANAGEMENT REPORTING AND
 DISCLOSURE ACT OF 1959

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This Division has been informed by the Office of the Solicitor, United States Department of Labor, that Spiridon J. Aniphandis, 30-15 81st Street, Jackson Heights, New York, a member of Local 6, Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders International, has furnished information to the effect that the above subjects, whose union positions were not clarified, were communists. In addition, it was pointed out that Aniphandis had alleged that Tsakiris is an illegal resident of the United States and that he believes that [REDACTED] are currently active underground workers of the Communist Party.

It appears that the above individuals, in the order listed, are identical with the subjects of Bureau files 100-253223, 100-396355, 100-96104 and 100-359282. In this same connection, it is noteworthy that the most recent report received with regard to [REDACTED] is dated February 8, 1951. Our file on [REDACTED] discloses no evidence of Communist Party membership on his part subsequent to 1950 and the file on Tsakiris similarly fails to reflect evidence to establish that he has held Party membership within the period proscribed by the provisions of Section 504 of the above Act. Additionally, our records indicate that Obermeyer has been deported from the United States.

Since this matter has been referred by the Department of Labor for our consideration with regard to the above Act, it is requested that an appropriate investigation be conducted to ascertain if these individuals are identical with the subjects of the mentioned Bureau files. Also, it is requested that we be furnished with any information that has come to the Bureau's attention which indicates that they have held membership in the Communist Party during the period proscribed by Section 504 of the Act and what, if any, union positions they have held since the enactment of the Act.

CT-22

158-194-1
3 MAR 23 1960

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
MEMORANDUM

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (158-)

DATE: 4/12/60

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (158-43)

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

MICHAEL OBERMEYER;
ANASTASSIOS TSAKIRIS
LABOR-MANAGEMENT REPORTING AND
DISCLOSURE ACT OF 1959 - SM
(OO: NEW YORK)

ReBulet to Assistant Attorney General J. WALTER
YEAGLEY dated 3/31/60.

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There is attached hereto 10 copies of a letter-
head memorandum reflecting the results of an interview
with SPIRIDON J. ANIPHANDIS, dated and captioned as above.

The identity of the Agents conducting the inter-
view with ANIPHANDIS are SAS [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

The Bureau's policy regarding labor unions was
explained to ANIPHANDIS at the outset of the interview
and he agreed that he understood the Bureau's position.

10 - Bureau (158-) (Encls. 10) (RM)

(1 - [REDACTED] Encl. 1)
(1 - [REDACTED] (Encl. 1)
(1 - 100-96104) (M. OBERMEYER) (Encl. 1)
(1 - 100-359282) (A. TSAKIRIDES) (Encl. 1)
7 - New York [REDACTED] Encls. 2) (#413)
(1 - NY [REDACTED] Encl. 1) (#424)
(1 - NY [REDACTED] (Encl. 1) (#412)
(1 - NY 100-57744) (M. OBERMEYER) (Encl. 1) (#412)
(1 - NY 100-92314) (A. TSAKIRIDES) (Encl. 1) (#311)
(1 - NY [REDACTED] 1) (#4B)

RFM:msk
(17)

REC- 88

158-194-2

13 APR 15 1960

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/29/01 BY SP5TC/AE

941543

4 APR 20 1960

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

NY 158-43

Bureau files regarding captioned individuals are identified as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Bureau File</u>	<u>NY File</u>

MICHAEL OBERMEYER	100-96104	100-57744
ANASTASSIOS TSAKIRIS	100-359282	100-92314

The files of the NYO contain the following information regarding:

SPIRIDON J. ANIPHANDIS

Former [redacted] on 2/15/49, furnished a three page typewritten list of names and addresses believed to be a mailing list of the "Daily Worker". The name SPIRIDON ANIPHANDIS, 134 West 63rd Street, NY 23, NY, was included on this list. ANIPHANDIS, it will be recalled, during his interview on 4/5/60, stated he resided at this address for approximately 24 years.

ANIPHANDIS is also one of the victims in a case entitled ANASTASSIOS TSAKIRIS, aka; SPIRIDON J. ANIPHANDIS; ET AL.-VICTIMS, EXTORTION, Bufile 9-36002, NY 9-2824.

This file indicates ANIPHANDIS directed a letter to the "Chairman of the Board of Immigration, Washington, DC". In this letter he indicated how he and others were subpoenaed to an INS Deportation Hearing regarding the deportation of ANASTASSIOS TSAKIRIS held on 6/19/58, at INS Headquarters, NYC. ANIPHANDIS complained that since that time TSAKIRIS looked forward "to revenge us, threatening with death, ambushing at night, involving

NY 158-43

some with our Union to deprive us of our bread and butter. Therefore, we live with our families in constant fear. He is nothing else but a terrorist, smears and lies are his best fruit".

He concluded the letter by asking instructions on how to avoid any further complications with TSAKIRIS.

The above letter was subsequently turned over to the NYO. Subsequent investigation by the NYO disclosed that as a result of TSAKIRIS' hearing on 8/4/58, the latter had established statutory eligibility for suspension of deportation, and in view of his meritorious seaman service during WW II, INS ruled that TSAKIRIS warranted this relief as a matter of administrative discretion.

Investigation also disclosed that in previous hearings held by INS under above matter, ANIPHANDIS testified that TSAKIRIS had threatened him with bodily harm and was an individual of very questionable moral character, which allegations INS records indicated were never substantiated.

ANIPHANDIS was interviewed by Agents of the NYO during the investigation and stated, among other things, that at no time did TSAKIRIS make a threat to him on the telephone or through the US mails. Further that TSAKIRIS never threatened him on the basis of his testimony furnished to INS.

NY 158-43

On 11/2/59, the facts of this case were presented to the AUSA, EDNY and on that date the latter advised, among other things, that due to the indirect nature of the receipt of this information, he did not feel investigation was warranted.

In view of the above, no further investigation was conducted by the NYO.

The files of the NYO fail to reflect that [redacted] [redacted] MICHAEL OBERMEYER, and ANASTASSIOS TSAKIRIS have held membership in the CP during the period prescribed by Section 504 of the Act.

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With regard to [redacted] who allegedly attempted to recruit ANIPHANDIS to join the CP, the files of the NYO contained the following information regarding [redacted]

On 12/24/45, former NY [redacted] made available to SA [redacted] a book maintained by the Financial Secretary of the West Midtown Club, CP, 5 Columbus Circle, NYC. Included in the book was a list of names which included one [redacted]

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[redacted] NAME MAINTAINED BY CP. N.Y. NY
It is not known whether or not the above individual is identical with [redacted] as described by ANIPHANDIS.

No further action is being taken by the NYO in this matter and this case is being closed.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

New York, New York
April 12, 1960

Re:

Herman; Michael
Obermeyer; Anastassios
Tsakiris

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~~SPY/DOE/AMPHANDIS~~
Spiridon J. Aniphandis, 33-15 81st Street,
Apartment 5C, Jackson Heights, New York, was inter-
viewed on April 5, 1960, by Agents of the Federal Bureau
of Investigation. He furnished the following informa-
tion:

Aniphandis, 78 years of age by his own admis-
sion, stated he had been a union member in the New
York City area since approximately 1910. He currently
holds Union Membership Card Number 2792 in the Hotel
and Club Employees Union, Local 6, Hotel and Restaurant
Employees and Bartenders International Union, American
Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organiza-
tions, 305 West 44th Street, New York City, and has
done so for many years.

He is currently employed as a waiter at the
Hotel Statler-Hilton, New York City. He has lived
with his wife at the above address for the past several
years, formerly residing at 134 West 63rd Street, New
York City, for approximately 24 years.

Aniphandis stated he suffered what might be
termed a "nervous" breakdown in approximately 1947,
but states he is presently in good health.

Aniphandis described himself as a militant
union member who is only interested in "justice".
He related how in 1946, he voluntarily arose at a
union meeting and demanded justice for a brother union
member, another waiter, whom he claimed the union
arbitrarily removed from a good position in a private
club in New York City. He claimed he lost this union
battle, and since that time he alleged the union has
been against him.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/29/01 BY SP5JC/AE
#94543

ENCLOSURE

Re [redacted]

Michael Obermeyer; Anastassios
Tsakiris

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To further describe his militancy, he claims to have written numerous letters to the United States Treasury Department, Social Security Board, and some United States Senators on various issues which have arisen over the years regarding his employment, etcetra. As an example, he cited the controversy over tips, and their subsequently being declared taxable by the United States Internal Revenue Division.

Aniphandis stated he presently has a labor case pending before the National Labor Relations Board, Second Region, New York City, versus the Hilton Hotel Corporation, Hotel Statler-Hilton; and Local 6 of the Hotel and Club Employees Union. He stated that the union had him removed from the first list of employees at the Statler-Hilton to the second list and, consequently, he does not have steady employment. Aniphandis believed this unfair because of his alleged seniority and indicated his case would come up for a hearing on May 2, 1960, and that he had employed his own attorney.

Aniphandis stated that he has never been a member of the Communist Party. He recalled, however, that one [redacted] whom he described as another waiter, with whom he worked in 1946, attempted to recruit him into the Communist Party during that year, but he refused. Aniphandis stated he has no idea where [redacted] is located at this time.

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The Communist Party, USA has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

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Re: [REDACTED]
Michael Obermeyer, Anastassios
Tsakiris

With regard to captioned individuals, he
furnished the following information:

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[REDACTED]

Aniphandis stated [REDACTED] is currently the
[REDACTED] of the New York Hotel Trades Council, American
Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations.
This council is composed of the following locals in
New York City:

1. Local Union Number 3
Local Union Number 1005
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
2. Hotel and Club Employees Union,
Local Number 6
Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders
International Union
3. Locals 94 and 94A of the International Union
of Operating Engineers
4. Local Number 144
Hotel and Allied Service Employees Union
of the Building Service Employees Inter-
national Union
5. Local Number 56 of the International Brother-
hood of Firemen, Oilers, and Maintenance
Mechanics
6. Hotel Maintenance, Painters Local Number 1422
of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators,
and Paperhangers of America

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b7C

Re: [redacted]
Michael Obermeyer; Anastassios
Tsakiris

7. Office Employees International Union
Local Number 153

8. Hotel Maintenance Upholstery Workers Union
Local Number 43 of the Upholsterers Inter-
national Union of North America

Aniphandis' only information concerning [redacted] b6
alleged Communist Party membership and/or activities he b7C
stated was obtained from the Annual Report of the Commit-
tee on Un-American Activities, 1953. This report was
published by the House Committee on Un-American Activities
on February 6, 1954.

[redacted]

[redacted] he stated, is [redacted] of a Hotel
Employees Union local in Miami, Florida.

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Aniphandis stated he has not seen or had con-
tact with [redacted] in approximately four or five years
since the latter left New York City. The only informa-
tion he has regarding [redacted] Communist Party activities
he stated was also contained in the above-mentioned
Annual Report of the Committee on Un-American Activities,
1953.

MICHAEL OBERMEYER

Aniphandis stated that Obermeyer was formerly
the President of Local 6 of the Hotel and Club Employees
Union in New York City in approximately 1950. He stated
that Obermeyer was deported in approximately 1952 to
Germany for making a false statement in a naturalization
proceeding regarding Communist Party membership.

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Re: [REDACTED]
Michael Obermeyer; Anastassios
Tsakiris

Aniphandis stated he has had no contact with Obermeyer since the latter's deportation and has no knowledge of Obermeyer's Communist Party activities other than those set forth in the above-mentioned Annual Report of the Committee on Un-American Activities, 1953.

ANASTASSIOS TSAKIRIS

Aniphandis described Tsakiris as a waiter and member of Local 6 of the Hotel and Club Employees Union, New York City. Tsakiris, he stated, holds no official union position.

Aniphandis stated the only information he has concerning Tsakiris' Communist Party activities is that the latter told him in 1949 that he had marched in the May Day Parade that year and had carried a sign. Aniphandis could not furnish any other details.

Aniphandis stated that he had also heard that Tsakiris had [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Aniphandis stated he, among others, was subpoenaed as a witness and testified against Tsakiris' moral character in an Immigration and Naturalization Service deportation hearing versus Tsakiris held at Immigration and Naturalization Service Headquarters in New York in approximately 1958. Tsakiris, he stated, was not deported and was allowed to remain in the United States.

Aniphandis stated he could furnish no other information regarding Tsakiris' alleged Communist Party activities.

A characterization of the May Day Parade may be found on the Appendix sheet attached.

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Re:

[REDACTED]
Michael Obermeyer; Anastassios
Tsakiris

APPENDIX

The "(Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," revised and published as of January 2, 1957, to supersede Guide published on May 14, 1951, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, DC, contains the following concerning the

MAY DAY PARADE

- "1. 'The May Day Parade in New York City is an annual mobilization of Communist strength'.
(Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House report 1311 on the CIO Political Action Committee, March 29, 1944, p. 179.)"

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: May 3 1960

RA
Jury
 FROM : J. Walter Yeagley
 Assistant Attorney General
 Internal Security Division

SUBJECT: b6
b7C

MICHAEL OBERMEYER
 ANASTASSIOS TEAKIRIS
 LABOR-MANAGEMENT REPORTING AND
 DISCLOSURE ACT OF 1959

Reference is made to the information transmitted in this matter dated April 12, 1960 and prior correspondence relating to the captioned subjects.

Following an examination of the available material, it is our conclusion that prosecutive action against these subjects under Section 504 of the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959 is not warranted for lack of sufficient evidence to establish that they are in violation of the statute. These cases will, of course, be re-examined in the light of any new developments.

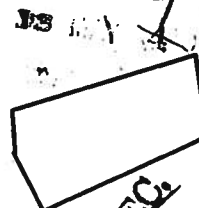
The United States Department of Labor is being advised as to the determination which we have reached.

EX-100
MAY 4 1960

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REC- 25 158-194-3

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52 MAY 12 1960

1 -

June 23, 1960

SAC, New York (158-43) —

MCT-22

REC-32 Director, FBI

158-194 4

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**MICHAEL OBERMEIER
ANASTASSIOS TSAKIRIS
LABOR-MANAGEMENT REPORTING AND
DISCLOSURE ACT OF 1959 -
SECURITY MATTER**

There is enclosed one copy of a letter from the Department dated 6-13-60 and one Photostat of a report of the Bureau of Labor-Management Reports dated April 5, 1960, enclosed with that letter.

The report of April 5, 1960, indicates that [redacted] characterized Michael Obermeier and [redacted] as members or former members of the Communist Party. Obermeier was deported in 1952. [redacted] should be interviewed concerning the basis for his characterization of [redacted] as a Communist Party member and the results submitted in a form suitable for dissemination within two weeks from the receipt of this letter.

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Enclosures (2)

GWH:ser
(4)

Tolson _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Belmont _____
Callahan _____
DeLoach _____
Malone _____
McGuire _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Trotter _____
W.C. Sullivan _____
Tele. Room _____
Ingram _____
Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: June 14 1960

FROM: J. Walter Yeagley
Assistant Attorney General
Internal Security Division

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

LABOR-MANAGEMENT REPORTING AND
DISCLOSURE ACT OF 1959b6
b7C*Should be
OBERMEYER*Reference is made to our memorandum of May 3, 1960 captioned
[REDACTED] Michael Obermeyer Anastassios Tsakiris,
Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959."We are enclosing a copy of an investigative report which we
received from the Bureau of Labor-Management Reports, United States
Department of Labor on May 20, 1960. In connection with the receipt
the report, we were advised by the Bureau of Labor-Management Reports
that [REDACTED][REDACTED] has furnished information with regard to [REDACTED] According
to [REDACTED] is "a graduate of the 'Jefferson School' in New York
City which was a training ground for the Communist Party." He also
said that [REDACTED] had been closely associated with known Communists in
Local 6 of the Hotel and Club Employees Union and in 1950 was one of
a group of delegates from Local 6 who was refused a seat at the union
convention because of the communist domination of that local. [REDACTED]
was unable to identify any of the Communists with whom the subject
was alleged to have associated.We have informed the Department of Labor that the information
contained in their report and accompanying letter of May 20, 1960
fails to reflect evidence that would cause us to alter our prior
determination of May 3, 1960.We are submitting this information for whatever action may
be deemed appropriate.*6-24-60
6-27-60
6-29-60*EX 10
REC-38

158-194

JUN 14 1960

ENCLOSURE
ENCLOSURE ATTACHED*Baumgardner*
INT. SEC.

158-194-4

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR-MANAGEMENT REPORTS
Office of Compliance and Enforcement

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO.

EY 8-3

DATE

April 5, 1960

TITLE

Local #255, Hotel Employees Union
211 23rd Street, Miami Beach, Florida

REPORT MADE AT

65

REPORT MADE AT

New York, N.Y.

PERIOD

March 10, 21, 23 and 28, 1960

OFFICE OF ORIGIN

Miami, Florida

STATUS

Pending

CHARACTER

Trusteeship-Administration; Officer-
Communist; Elections-Legal; Bill of Rights-

REFERENCE

Copies of Agreements

RCU, Miami, Florida, Files MIA 8-1, dated March 4, 1960

SYNOPSIS

[Redacted Synopsis]

APPROVED (Compliance Officer in charge)

Lawrence O. Davey

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

302-15-20

DISTRIBUTION

Bureau - 2
Region - 1
Miami Field Office - 2
File - 2

Bartenders International Union,
525 Walnut Street, Cincinnati, Ohio

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Hotel & Restaurant Employees and
Bartenders International Union
525 Walnut Street, Cincinnati, Ohio

(for Southern Florida Hotel & Motel
Association & Local #255)
New York, N.Y. (address unknown)

DETAILS:

1. The writer was assisted by Compliance Officer [REDACTED]

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AT NEW YORK, N.Y.

2. On March 21, 1960, the writer and Compliance Officer [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

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It was further alleged by [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] had been a close associate of MICHAEL J. OBENMEIER, who had been president of Local 6, Hotel Employees Union, New York City, prior to the tenure of [REDACTED] and of [REDACTED] present incumbent in the office of president of Local 6, Hotel Employees Union, New York City. [REDACTED] characterized both these individuals as members or former members of the Communist Party.

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[redacted] stated that he had no specific information of collusion between unions in the Miami, Florida area and the hotel industry but that the Hotel Employees Unions and the Hotel Association in Florida had a reputation for collusion. He stated that he had no definite information concerning this matter but only rumor that there was collusion going on in the area. He denied any knowledge of [redacted]

3. On March 21, 1960, the files of The New York Times were checked and revealed the following information. An article appearing in that newspaper on November 2, 1947 quoted MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER as admitting having been a member of the Communist Party from 1930 to 1939, at a hearing before the Immigration and Naturalization Service. The article identified OBERMEIER as former president of Local 6, Hotel & Club Employees Union, New York City.

An article which appeared in The New York Times on November 2, 1951 stated that MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER started serving a two year prison term as a result of having been convicted of having committed perjury in 1945 and 1946 on his application for United States Citizenship, in that he stated that he had never been a member of the Communist Party. He had come to the United States in 1923 as a permanent resident. He resided in 1951 at 69-15 178th Street, Flushing, Queens, New York.

An article which appeared in the New York Times on December 11, 1952 stated that MICHAEL J. OBERMEIER had been deported as an undesirable alien on December 10, 1952. He was deported to Germany.

An article which appeared in The New York Times on August 11, 1937 identified JAY RUBIN as general organizer for the Hotel Restaurant and Cafeteria Employees Organizing Committee.

An article which appeared in The New York Times on October 2, 1935 identified JAY RUBIN as National Secretary of the Food Worker Industrial Union and MICHAEL OBERMEIER (sic) as Secretary of Local 119 of Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union.

An article which appeared in The New York Times on May 8, 1940 identified JAY RUBIN as president of The New York Hotel Trades Council of five (5) A.F. of L. unions including Local 32-A Hotel Service Employees Union.

An article which appeared in The New York Evening Post on January 14, 1941 quoted allegations by SAM FRIEDMAN, President of Local #1, Waiters and Waitresses Union, made at the United Hebrew Trades Group, New York City, that JAY RUBIN was among others who were Communists in control of Cafe Union.

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The files of The New York Times reflected no pertinent information concerning [redacted]